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MR. FORD AS A FARMER IN ESSEX.

FIELD AND FACTORY.

SUCCESSFUL RESULTS OF MECHANICAL FARMING.

Mr. Henry Ford has now taken
to farming in Essex. Over two hun-
dred acres of land close to the huge
factory which his company is put-
ting up at Dagenham are under
wheat cultivation by "modern
power farming methods"—i.e., the
ploughing and reaping is done by
Fordson tractors. The experts who
were invited to see this experiment
were astonished to see harvesting
going on in these improbable
surroundings. The gigantic steel
framework of the half-built factory
is in the next field, as it were. On
the horizon is the famous Horn-
church refuse dump, a great dirty
haunt, and all round is indus-
trialism in its starkest form.

Marshland Becomes a Farm.

On the principle of making use
of everything, the Ford people have
turned the heavy marshland on
their site into a mechanical or
rationalised farm, employing a
Scottish farmer to make it pay.
This, according to the figures sup-
plied to the visitors, has been done
at Lake Farm. The results pub-
lished relate to two plots of four
and 73 acres, respectively. The
yield of wheat from the first last
year worked out at 33 cwt. to the
acre, and the total revenue from the
piece was a little over 200, or over
215 per acre. The yield from the
73 acres was nearly 30 cwt. per

acre, and the total revenue was
£1,311, or £18 per acre. This is
nearly double the average profit
from wheat farming in this country.
It is for agricultural experts to
pronounce on this result and to say
how far it could be achieved else-
where by the same means.

Mechanical Farming Pays.

The case put forward by the Ford
Company is that the experiment
demonstrates that farming can be
successfully carried on, if the land
is suitable, entirely by mechanical
means. The only animal on the
Ford farm is a cat. No manure
was used for the crops described
above, for the land was fallow and
rich, but now, in the second year,
with a much larger area under
cultivation, a small quantity of
chemical manure has been put on
the land. There are no horses, and
very few men. At present about
£20 acres are under wheat and
hay.

At the busy time of the year ten
men are employed; in the winter,
one or two only. The work is done
by three tractors, and with the ex-
ception of a skilled foreman the
workers have no farming experi-
ence. The interesting point is the
contention that, even with the low
prices of grain now ruling, it is
possible on a farm worked by
machinery to get a good return.
The motor-tractor can plough in
weather when the horse cannot, and
do much more work in the time.

The Biggest Car Factory.

Those of the party who saw
young Mr. Ford dig a silver spade
into a patch of marshy field by the
Thames in May, 1920, were struck

by the great progress that has been
made already in building the biggest
motor-car factory in Europe. Where
a year ago was a singularly desolate
expanse of weedy waste there is
now an enormous skeleton work-
shop, half-clad with bricks, glass,
and sheet steel, and the soil over
large areas has been hidden by deep
substructures of concrete to bear
the weight of machinery. The fac-
tory, they say, would go into a
corner of Detroit and hardly be
seen—no doubt an exaggeration,—
but it is a staggering size for Eng-
land, with a blastfurnace (the first
in the South of England), power-
house, and other buildings in pro-
portion.

15,000 Workers Expected.

Owing to the nature of the soil
it has been necessary to drive in
many thousands of huge concrete
piles, some of them eighty feet long,
and one could see the mechanical
pile-driver at work to-day hammer-
ing in these monstrous pillars, a
foot for every stroke. There is
something impressive even to those
familiar with the feats of modern
engineering in the scale of all this
creative work, which is fast turning
a wilderness into a complete
"plant," fed by its own railways,
roads, and a new commercial har-
bour on the river.

It is expected that manufacturing
will begin some time next year, and
the Ford Company announce that
when the place is fully working it
will employ over fifteen thousand
men, and produce 200,000 cars each
year for the home and Continental
market. One supposes that some-
how room will be found on the roads
for this new outpouring of cars.

Diary of Coming Events.

Today,
(October 21.)
Queen's Theatre: "Free and
Easy."
Star Theatre: "Lady of the
Harem."
Central Theatre: "A Dangerous
Woman."
World Theatre: "Singing Fool."
Hong Kong, Macao and Canton
Steamboat Co., Extraordinary Gen-
eral Meeting, 11 a.m.
Lecture by Father Finn at Helena
May Institute: "Renaissance Art,"
5.30 p.m.
Nelson Day Concert at Leo
Theatre, 9 p.m.
University Union tea party to
His Excellency and Lady Peel, 4.30
p.m.
Hockey: Tamar and Small ships
Sunderland.
Dinner Dance: Peninsula Hotel,
8.30 p.m.

European Mail:—Outward:
Europe via Siberia (Hiye Maru), 8
p.m.
Wednesday,
(October 22.)
Queen's Theatre: "It's A Great
Life."
World Theatre: "Madonna of
Avenue A."
Star Theatre: "Noah's Ark."
Central Theatre: "Tanned Legs."
Majestic Theatre: "The Grand
Parade."
European Mail:—Inward: Europe
via Suez (Macedonia), Outward:
Europe via Siberia (Macedonia), 8
p.m.
Dinner Dance: Hong Kong Hotel
8.30 p.m.

Thursday,
(October 23.)
Queen's Theatre: "It's A Great
Life."

World Theatre: "Madonna of
Avenue A."
Star Theatre: "Noah's Ark."
Central Theatre: "Tanned Legs."
Majestic Theatre: "Lilac Time."
Orchestral Concert, Helena May
Institute, 5.30 p.m.

Friday,
(October 24.)
Queen's Theatre: "It's A Great
Life."
World Theatre: "Madonna of
Avenue A."
Star Theatre: "Noah's Ark."
Central Theatre: "Tanned Legs."
Majestic Theatre: "Lilac Time."
Concert at Helena May Institute,
Kowloon Branch.
Jumble Sale, Union Church.
Dinner Dance: Peninsula Hotel,
8.30 p.m.

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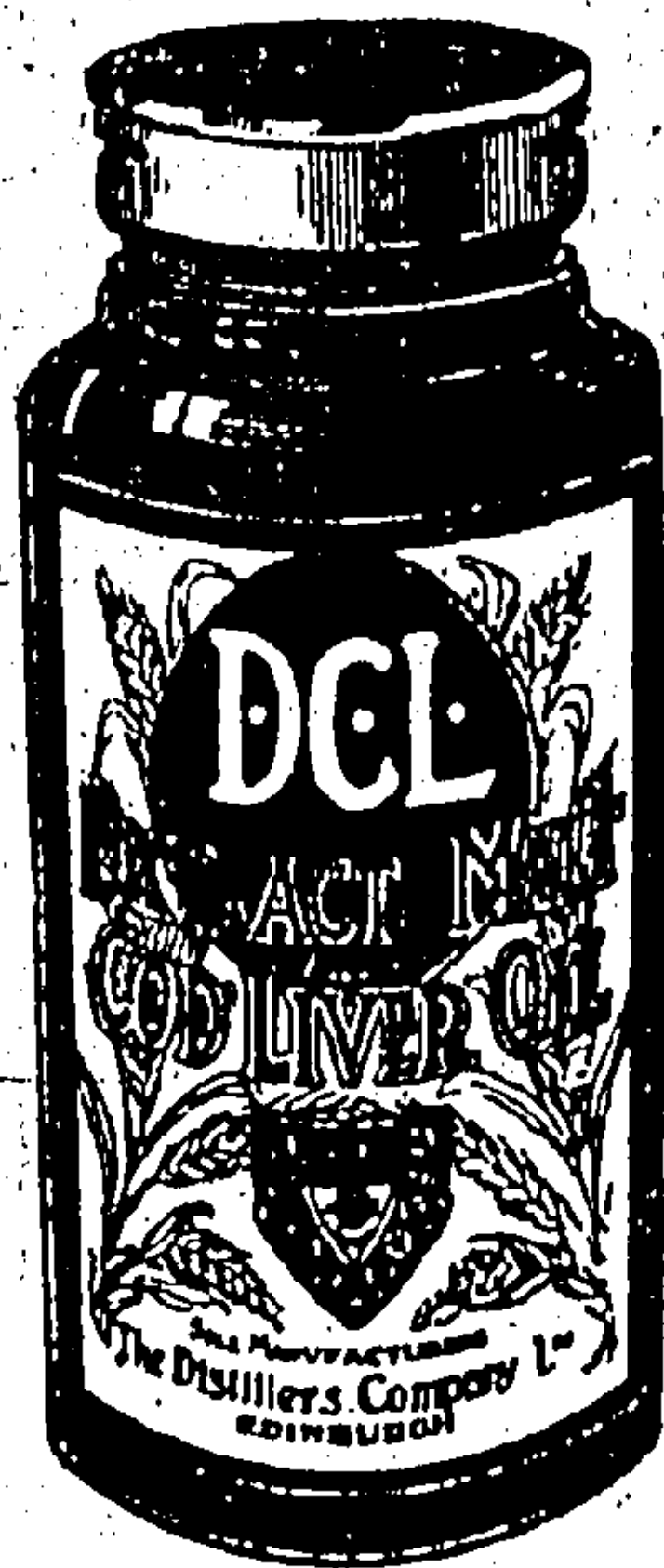
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canyon. Stop off at Jasper
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them, Niagara Falls. And,
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Stamp Collectors

Will find an interesting
article in the "Daily
Press" Every Thursday.

HONG KONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS BY THE HON. MR. E. D. C.
WOLFE, C.M.G., INSPECTOR-
GENERAL OF POLICE.

Police Training School.

The weekly classes for Police Reservists at the Police Training School, Kowloon, will be held on Tuesday, October 21, at 5.30 p.m. All members of the Chinese Company, and of the Flying Squad who have not yet passed Part 2 of Training Course should attend.

Flying Squad.

The weekly instructional patrol of the Kowloon Section will take place on Tuesday, October 21. Fall in at Tsim-tai-tai Fire Brigade Station at 5.30 p.m. sharp. Dress: Khaki uniform and cap with khaki cover.

The weekly instructional patrol of the Hong Kong Section will take place on Friday, October 24. Fall in at the Central Police Station at 5.15 p.m. sharp. Dress: Khaki uniform and cap with khaki cover.

Sharpshooters' Company.

Strength:—Constable R440 H. H. Lasham is struck off the strength of the Sharpshooters' Company, with effect from October 18.

Leave:—Constable R423 C. L. Gan has been granted two months' leave of absence from the Colony as from October 15.

Riot Drill:—Riot drill will be carried out on Tuesday, October 21. Members will assemble outside Queen's Pier at 5.10 p.m. with rifles, revolvers and truncheons. Uniform if possible.

Rifle Practice:—Rifle practice will be carried out on the Tai Hang Range on Sunday, October 20, at 10 a.m. Members will assemble on the range at that hour with their rifles.

General.

Revolver Practice:—The regular weekly revolver practice (voluntary) at Bowen Road Revolver Range will be discontinued until further orders as the range has been placed at the disposal of persons holding arms licences so as to enable them to pass the necessary course qualifying them for the renewal of their licences on January 1, 1931. The Revolver Range will be open to all persons possessing arms licences to enable them to qualify for the renewal of their licences on Wednesday, October 23, and Friday, October 24, from 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. In order to prevent congestion on the range only trained revolver shots should attend on Wednesdays and arms licences requiring instruction should attend on Fridays.

(Sgd.) D. L. KING,
D.S.P. (R.).

Hong Kong, October 20, 1930.

LIFE AFTER DEATH.

THE FAITH OF SIR OLIVER
LODGE.

Sir Oliver Lodge, scientist and spiritualist, recently made an inspiring confession of faith in God and in the survival of the human soul after death.

He was delivering an address to a crowded congregation, which included many members of the British Association, at the David Thomas Memorial Church, Bristol.

"These," he said, "are the general conclusions to which I have been led by the facts known to us. 'We are incarnations of spirit, here and now, spiritual beings in contact with inert matter for a time, living on this planet for something under a century.'

"Earth-life appears to be an episode of considerable importance in this history of a soul, and in many cases appears to be the beginning of an individual existence or personality. Certainly the individual continues thereafter, and carries with him his power, his memory and his affection.

"The Real Fact."

"Already science is discovering that all activity, all energy, all spontaneity, is to be traced to the properties possessed by what we call empty space; and that the matter that appears to our sense is a comparatively trivial interruption of its continuity, with a function purely demonstrative.

"The real fact is that we are in the midst of a spiritual world, that it dominates the material. It constitutes the great and omnipresent reality, whose powers we are only beginning to realise, whose properties and functions exhaust all our admiration. They might, indeed, be terrifying had we not been assured, for our consolation, that these tremendous energies are all controlled by a beneficent love.

"In that faith we can face any destiny that may befall us in the infinite future."

APPEAL TO AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS.

NEW PROHIBITION
MOVEMENT.

[UNITED PRESS.]

Washington, Oct. 14.—The Federal Prohibition Bureau to-day made an unexpected and sensational move when it asked 3,000 newspapers of the United States whether they favour or oppose the Eighteenth (Prohibition) Amendment and the Volstead Enforcement Act.

Surveys previously conducted tend to show that a majority of newspapers, including several large chains such as Scripps-Howard and Hearst, are against prohibition as at present enforced. In general the newspapers of the larger cities appear to be more opposed to prohibition than those in smaller cities or rural areas.

This will be the first such inquiry by any federal agency and it is expected to have political repercussions.

A CURB ON NEW YORK GAMBLERS.

EXCHANGE OFFICIALS CON-
FER WITH PRESIDENT.

[UNITED PRESS.]

New York, Oct. 14.—It was learned to-day that Mr. Richard Whitney, president of the New York Stock Exchange, and Mr. Allen A. Lindsay, vice-president, conferred with President Hoover last Sunday on the subject of restriction of "short" selling as a means of curbing speculation and market fluctuations.

An organized campaign to squeeze the "shorts" was under way in to-day's session of the New York Stock Exchange, proving, in the view of many observers, the necessity for providing a check on the entire operation, in the interest of levelling out market movements and avoiding difficulties in delicate times such as the present.

HELIUM FOUND IN ESTHONIA.

GOOD NEWS FOR AIRSHIP
BUILDERS.

Berlin, Oct. 14.—With Europe's armaments still depressed by the terrible disaster that befell the giant British airship R-101 and which caused such an enormous loss of life chiefly on account of the hydrogen an important discovery which promises to give a fresh impetus to airship building has been made in Esthonia where mining-engineers discovered the presence of large quantities of helium gas of which samples have already been sent to Germany for analysis. Should this prove positive the United States helium monopoly will be broken and it will be possible to supply Germany and Great Britain with sufficient quantities of non-inflammable gas for their airships.

ADVICE FOR INVESTORS.

READERS are reminded that inquiries relating to the share market are answered on page 12 every Tuesday by "Kufan." Letters should be sent to this office, and must be accompanied by the coupon appearing below, bearing the writer's name and address, not for publication. Letters should be addressed to "Kufan," care of the Editor, "Hong Kong Daily Press."

"KUFAN" COUPON.

Name:

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H.K.P.]

ATTACK ON U.S. PRESIDENT

WHITE HOUSE PUBLISHES
CONGRESS MESSAGE.

[UNITED PRESS.]

Washington, Oct. 14.—In order to prove the good faith of President Hoover in connection with yesterday's attack by the Rev. John F. Burke, secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the White House to-day published a telegram sent to Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago who is presiding over the Eucharistic Congress at Omaha.

The message contained greetings and appreciation of the value of spiritual ideals and religious observance to the life of the nation. Friends indicated that President Hoover might consider the phraseology of his recent letter to the Lutherans' Reformation Sunday celebration as "unfortunate." The President's letter to the Lutherans, to which the Rev. Fr. Burke took exception, mentioned the Augsburg Confession which marked the separation of Church and State.

In the opinion of the Reverend Burke the letter violated the spirit of the Presidential oath in that it contained congratulations to a particular religious body for changes it had introduced into religious concepts.

ANTI-GAS PACT.

CONVENTION STILL LACKS
THE SIGNATURE OF U.S.

[UNITED PRESS.]

Geneva, Sept. 27.—[The adhesion by the Irish Free State makes a total now of 27 states that have signed the League of Nations' convention agreeing to abolish gas, chemical and bacteriological means in warfare.

The convention, that was launched by the League in 1925 largely through the efforts of the United States, has not as yet been signed by the latter.

The signatory states, to date are Ireland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, China, Denmark, Egypt, England, Canada, India, South Africa, New Zealand, Spain, Finland, France, Italy, Liberia, Holland, Persia, Poland, Roumania, Sweden, Turkey, Yugoslavia, the Soviets, Australia and Venezuela.

As the situation stands from the continental point of view the convention has now been accepted by virtually every important country of Europe, where wars have been the most frequent in the past.

BURNS AND SCALDS FIRST-AID.

ZAM-BUK SOOTHES PAIN AND
GROWS NEW SKIN.

A severe burn or scald may be just the matter of a moment. But whilst the shock is momentary, the awful pain is liable to torment the unfortunate sufferer for hours or days afterwards. For prompt relief and safety, smear Zam-Buk thickly over the burnt skin and then bandage lightly but quickly to exclude air.

Zam-Buk is wonderfully pain-soothing. It not only prevents inflammation and festering, but also destroys the dangerous germs that cause wounds to turn septic or poisoned.

Burns, scalds, cuts, bruises, or abrasions cannot go "the wrong way" when treated with Zam-Buk. This famous ointment, made from precious herbal extracts, is acknowledged the world's greatest skin-cure. It cleanses the damaged tissues of all bad matter and provides a valuable antiseptic shield until the process of healing is completed.

Zam-Buk is a pure and highly-refined balm prepared under the direction of qualified chemists in our famous laboratory. Zam-Buk never comes in contact with human hands and it is guaranteed free from animal fats.

For its value in the treatment of eczema, ulcers, poisoned wounds, itch, ringworm, bad legs, boils, abscesses, Hong Kong foot, piles, and for all sorts of muscular pains, Zam-Buk is unrivalled. Obtainable in handy-size boxes, of all medicine dealers.



A REMINDER

WE WOULD like to bring to the notice of those who intend to take advantage of our "SAY IT WITH CHOCOLATES"

scheme that orders should be sent in not later than the first week in November to ensure the Chocolates arriving in time for Christmas. We shall do our best to execute orders arriving later, but cannot guarantee the gift arriving in time nor that stocks will remain of the required boxes.

NESTLÉ'S



A doctor writes in the "Medical Press and Circular":
"Sanatogen has an immediate and remarkable effect, shown by a steady increase of strength and energy. The colour is brought back to the cheeks."

FEEL YOUNG—

then you will look young. Feed every cell of your body with Sanatogen. Sanatogen contains the very food that is required to build up and rejuvenate the millions of cells of which your body is composed. Let Sanatogen fill you with new energy and vitality. After only a short course you will feel stronger, healthier, younger.

SANATOGEN

The True Tonic-Food
At all Chemists and Grocers.

H. K. Benevolent Society.

A Jumble Sale will be held at the City Hall on Wednesday, November 5th, at 2 P.M.

Clothing and Household Goods will be gratefully accepted at the City Hall on Monday or Thursday from 10.30 to 11.30 A.M.

CENTRAL THEATRE

Paramount's Sound Picture

TO-DAY ONLY
Daily at 2.15, 5.10, 7.15 and 9.20 p.m.

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—this lovely, lonely wife!



HER husband, his
best friend. His
younger brother. She
loved and laughed at
them all in turn. All
who met her knew
her as

A DANGEROUS WOMAN

with
BACLANOVA
CLIVE BROOK
NEIL HAMILTON
A
Paramount Picture

Paramount News
and Sound Novelty.

NEXT CHANGE, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22

Arthur Lake June Clyde
Sally Blane Ann Pennington

IN

"TANNED LEGS"

Radio's Dazzling Bathing Beauty Revue
Hear New Hit Songs of the Hour.

Bookings at Andersons and the Theatre (Tel. 25720).

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LONG BEFORE THESE DAYS.



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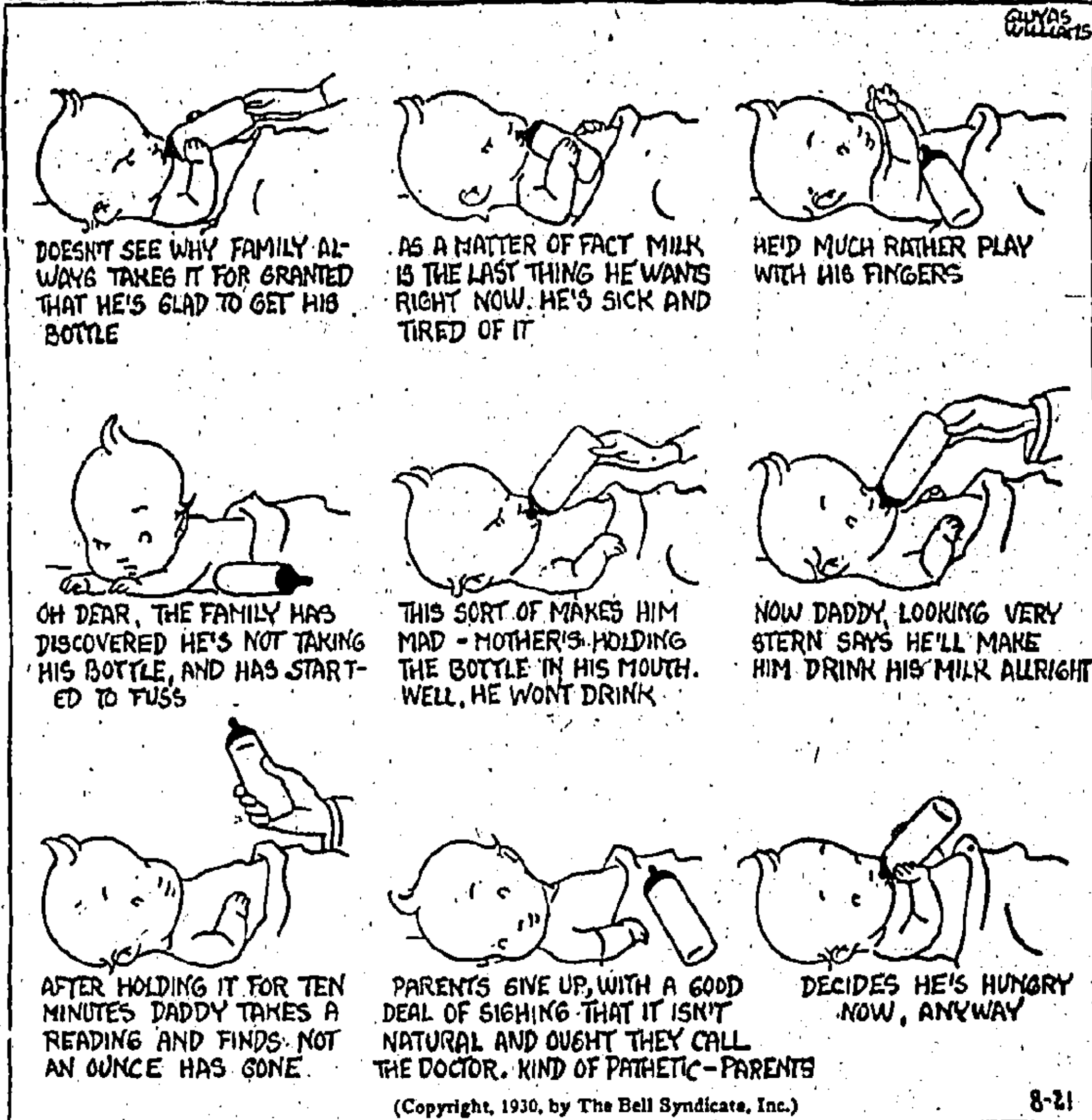
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BOTTLE-TIME

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



THE SILVER SCREEN.

"TANNED LEGS."

A new slant on the younger generation that will cause many parents to both ponder and smile is presented amid dazzling beauty in Radio Pictures' "Tanned Legs," scheduled for the screen of the Central Theatre to-morrow.

The screen at last seems to have caught the spirit of twentieth century youth in this effervescent drama which features Ann Pennington, Arthur Lake, Dorothy Revier, Sally Blane, Albert Gran and June Clyde, a refreshingly new and youthful star whose smile and voice promise to carry her far.

Songs, dances, bathing suits and girls are the elements out of which

Director Marshall Neilan builds his drama. There's a thrill or two for variety and enough legs to give Ziegfeld nightmares, but it's the rhythm and the wise-cracking that put the show in the hit class.

Five new songs by Levant and Clara promise to outbid their "Street Girl" numbers for popularity. Two of these, "With Me, With You," and "You're Responsible," are already familiar to radio.

"Journey's End."

The Central Theatre will present for the first time here on Sunday, October 20, the Tiffany-Gainsborough all-dialogue film version by arrangement with Maurice Browne, of R. C. Sherriff's now world-famous play, "Journey's End." Colin Clive heads the cast, including David Manners, Ian Maclaren, Anthony Bushell, Billy Bevan, Charles Gerard, Jack Pitskin, Warner Klingor, Robert A'Dair and Thomas Whiteley.

"Journey's End" is a slice of life that has been cut from the middle of one of the most intensely dramatic periods of the world's history. The scene is in the British trenches before St. Quentin. The entire action takes place in a single dug-out under a trench. It is the story of the effect that going into the trenches for the first time had on a youngster making the plunge from civilization to a battlefield dug-out.

Second Lieutenant Raleigh, the youngster, played by David Manners, and Captain Stanhope played by Colin Clive, are the principals. Raleigh, who has been Stanhope's youthful school companion, arrives to fight under this man who was his ideal, his former athletic hero, and now his war hero. Stanhope, who is all that he is now despite his heavy drinking, and who is in love with Raleigh's sister is forced to send the young man to almost sure death for the sake of getting certain information that must be had.

Lieutenant Osborne (played by Ian Maclaren), who is twice as old as Stanhope, has a role in the play wherein he helps the young man to see that, while his school hero has lost many qualities in his change of station to that of a war hero, he has at the same time gained a number of good qualities with the losing of the others.

"Journey's End" is not a historical drama of the war. It does not express its thoughts in shocking profanity. It does not strike up the band, or wave any flags, or set forth any propaganda. It is a story of men—you see them in filth and trench and fighting, but in your mind you can see them in their homes—you can see them as the men they were before war grabbed them, as the men they want to be

if they get out of it safely; that is how cleverly R. C. Sherriff has devised his play.

"Free and Easy."

A microphone served double duty when it not only acted as a pro in a picture but at the same time recorded the voices of the actors in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's all-talking all-star comedy, "Free and Easy," which is showing at the Queen's Theatre.

In the scenes of this Hollywood satire, showing how a talking picture is made, the microphone hanging over the heads of Karl Dane, Dorothy Sebastian and other players was placed so that it was in range of the cameras filming the scenes, while other cameras, photographing from another angle, were also shown. At the same time the microphone in question recorded the dialogue.

The new comedy, directed by Edgar Sedgwick, is said to have as imposing a cast as was ever got together for one picture and includes such Hollywood celebrities as Buster Keaton in his first talking and singing role, Anita Page, Trixie Friganza, Robert Montgomery, William Haines, Lionel Barrymore, Cecil B. De Mille, Dorothy Sebastian, Edgar Deafing, David Burton, William Collier, Sr., Fred Niblo, Karl Dane, Marion Shilling, John Miljan, Owen Lee and Lottie Howell.

"It's a Great Life."

Romance pecked its head around the edge of the sets where the Duncan Sisters were making "It's a Great Life" at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios.

During the production of this initial talking and singing picture of the famous "sister act," an attachment between Vivian Duncan and the handsome Nils Asther ripened into an engagement.

So if Vivian seems unusually starchy-eyed in "It's a Great Life," which will open on Wednesday at the Queen's Theatre, the stalwart Nils can be named as a contributing cause. Mr. Asther, however, does not appear in "It's a Great Life," which specializes in singing, dancing and backstage life. Sam Wood directed the offering, which was filmed with technicolor sequences under the supervision of Mrs. Natalie Kalmus, noted colour expert.

Women's manners are improving because of the feminine clothes they have adopted, but masculine manners are lagging behind. This opinion is expressed by a New York fashion expert. This woman writer says: "Clothes influence manners more than most people know. When women dropped their skirts below their knees and came back to fitted waists and sleeves that were something more than an apron covering the old brisk post-war manners just didn't fit. They softened their voices, stopped smoking so much in public and became feminine again."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[For obvious reasons, the identity of his correspondents must be known to the Editor. All letters intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, unless so desired, but as evidence of good faith. Correspondents who do not give this information will not see their letters in print.—Ed.]

AN APPEAL FOR ANIMALS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONG KONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—The annual financial drive of the Hong Kong Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is taking place on October 22, 23, and 24, and I shall be much obliged if you will kindly assist me in bringing this before the community of Hong Kong through the medium of your columns.

As the financial drive is the main source of the Society's revenue, from which heavy expenses have to be met in the nature of Inspectors' salaries and the upkeep of the Dogs' Home, the support of the community (which has been so readily accorded in the past) is again solicited, and I can assure you will be very much appreciated.

The Society depends almost entirely upon voluntary contributions, and as the welfare of animals is a matter which concerns everybody, either directly or indirectly, I hope very much that our appeal will receive a sympathetic and generous response.—Yours, etc.

J. RUSSELL,
PRESIDENT, S.P.C.A.

Hong Kong, October 18.

TO-DAY'S WIRELESS PROGRAMME.

BROADCAST BY Z.B.W. ON 355 METRES.

NELSON DAY CONCERT RELAY.

11 to 11.30 a.m.—Commercial news.
11.30 a.m.—Chinese programme.
12.30 p.m.—European programme.
1.30 p.m.—Weather report.
2 p.m.—Close down.
3 p.m.—European programme of records selected and supplied by Messrs. Anderson Music Co.
"The House That Jack Built"—Selection.—Ray Starita and The Ambassadors Band.
"Three Blind Mice"—Humorous Fantasy and "Pop Goes the Weasel"—St. Hilda Colliery Band.
"A Hunting Medley" and "Community Medley"—Debroy Somers Band.
"Carmen—Entr'acte" (Bizet)—Band of the Garde Republique of France.
"La Boheme"—Selection (Puccini)—New Queen's Hall Light Orchestra.
"The Magic Flute—The Manly Heart" (Mozart)—Duet in English.
"Mon Lac—Prelude" and "Theme and Variations"—Orchestre Symphonique de Paris.
6 p.m. (approx.)—
"Mr. Cinders"—Vocal Selections.—The Comedy Singers.
"Get Up Nice and Early in the Morning" and "Mucking About in the Garden"—The Two Gilberts, Comedians.
"Funny Face—Tell the Doc" and "A Few Drinks"—Comedy Sketch by Leslie Henson and Sydney Howard.
"Laughing Policeman" and "You've Got to Laugh"—Laughing Song by Charles Holly.
"Mr. Sparrow Puts Up for Parliament"—Regal Sketch Company.
"Rocking My Baby to Sleep" and "Cuckoo Song"—Harry Robinson, Yodler.
"Yo Can Come and See the Baby" and "Sailing Up the Clyde"—Will Fyffe, Comedian.
"On With the Show 1929"—Jan Rajani and his band.
7 to 10 p.m.—Chinese Studio Concert.
10 p.m.—Weather report.
10 p.m.—European programme.
"Classical Memories"—Debroy Somers Band.
"The Pirates of Penzance"—Vocal solos.—Columbia Light Opera Co.
"Invitation to the Valse" (Wagner) and "Chant Sans Paroles" (Tchaikowsky)—Squire Celeste Octette.
10.30 p.m.—Relay from the Lee Theatre, second half of the programme of the Nelson Day Concert, by kind permission of the Navy League.
11.30 p.m.—Close down.

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ALL STARS!
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At 6.20 & 9.20.

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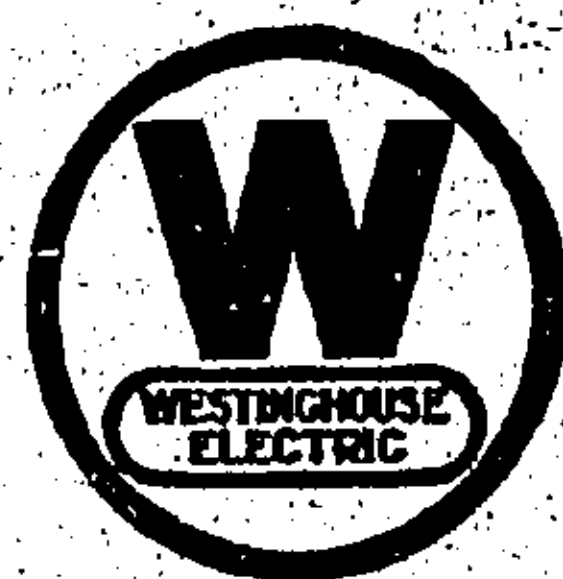
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SHANGHAI SOCCER.

WARNING TO OFFENDERS.

REFEREES ALREADY
COMPLAINING.

The following circular has been
sent to all clubs in membership of
the Shanghai Football Association:—

Among the complaints received
from referees of League matches
which were played on October 11
and 12 were several on the follow-
ing lines:—
(a) No lineamen provided.
(b) Teams arriving late and the
start of the match delayed thereby.
(c) Teams not turning out in
their registered colours, and in some
cases with a multifarious assort-
ment of shirts.

(d) Players coming on to the
field after the game had started
and failing to report to the referee.
(e) Difficulty in obtaining lists
of players from the captains of
the competing teams, and the gen-
erally unsatisfactory condition of
such lists when they were supplied.
(f) Arguing with the referee
after he had given a decision.
(g) Dangerous play.

With regard to:—
(a) Clubs are reminded that an
efficient lineamen must be supplied
by each team.

(b) Referees are being instruct-
ed to commence a match at the
specified hour, regardless of how
few players may be present. All
future cases of a game being de-
layed owing to the late arrival of
players will be dealt with by the
Executive Committee.

(c) All future complaints under
this heading will be dealt with by
the Executive Committee.

(d) This is a direct contraven-
tion of the laws of the game, and
future delinquents will be called
upon personally to explain their
conduct.

(e) It is important that the lists
of players shall be handed to the
referee before the time of commen-
cement of play, that they shall be
legible (many handed in last week
are not) and that shall state the
name of the team concerned. Re-
ferees are authorized to delay the
start of any match till they have
received such lists, and the clubs
concerned will be held responsible
for any delay.

(f) A circular on this subject
was issued to clubs only a few days
ago. Future offenders will be
called upon to appear before the Ex-
ecutive Committee, regardless of
what action may be taken on the
field by the referee.

(g) What constitutes dangerous
play is clearly laid down in the
laws of the game, and players are
expected to make themselves con-
versant with this.

PING PONG LEAGUE.

MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION- SHIP.

Further matches in the first round
of the singles in the ping pong
tournament have been played, result-
ing as follows:—

Chan Hon Shu beat Fok Hin
Chiu 3 sets to 1.
Lee Koon Lan beat Chu Kam
Kook 3-0.

Lam Ka Huen beat Lee Hon Kee
3-0.

The following matches will be
played this week:—

October 21: Mok Hing Woon v.
Kwan Man Ching.
October 22: Wong Tung Hoi v.
Chang Sum Chuen, Siu Sui Ching
v. Lai Put Lum.

October 23: Cheng Kwok Wing v.
Leung Lin Chuen, Lee Koon Lan v.
Lam Ka Huen.

LOCAL RUGGER.

CLUB "A" v. H.M.S. TAMAR.

The following will represent a
Club "A" XI v. H.M.S. Tamar
to-morrow at 5.10 p.m.:—

Back: S. J. H. Fox; Three-
quarters: M. Johnson, M. G. Mills,
J. E. Lee, A. R. S. Major; Half-
backs: J. H. M. Macready, E. C.
Black; Forwards: W. F. Leckie
(Capt.), E. G. Dale, Cochrane,
Watson, R. D. Beaumont, H. D.
Clippendale, B. C. Stock, Kerr.
Referee: G. F. Rees.

Final Trial Game.

The final trial game fixed for
to-morrow has been postponed to
Wednesday, October 23 at 5 p.m.
for which the following two sides
have been chosen:—

Club Colours:—Back: J. P.
Whitham; Three-quarters: G. P.
Lammert, R. H. Griffiths, C. J. D.
Law, L. Goldman; Half-backs: M.
W. Turner, J. L. Bonnar; For-
wards: W. F. Leckie, A. R. Cox,
W. R. Andrews, Hartley, G. F.
Rees, J. A. P. Kennedy, E. F.
Butters, A. N. Othor.
Colours:—Back: Sogalen; Three-
quarters: H. V. Koop, G. R. More,
G. A. L. Plummer, J. Ferguson;
Half-backs: J. W. King, A. N.

D. Sutcliffe, R. L. Cherrill, F. R.
Burch, E. R. West, E. B. Gammell,
J. R. Younger, D. P. Massey.

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freshed.



PLUCKED WHILE ALIVE.

SMART FINE FOR CRUELTY.

When a Chinese was charged with
unnecessary and avoidable cruelty
yesterday, the remains of a tiny
bird were brought into Court. It
was stated that the man plucked
the feathers off the bird while it
was still alive. A constable caught
the man in the act and took him to
the Police Station. When they got
there, the remains of the bird were
still warm.

Defendant persisted in the story
that the bird was dead before he
plucked the feathers.

The Magistrate: If this bird
were dead, why did you pull off its
feathers?

Defendant: I was preparing it
for food.

His Worship: Food from a thing
like that?

Defendant: It is sold on the
market.

His Worship: That was the only
bird found in his hand?

The constable: Yes.
Acting Sub-Inspector Post testi-
fied that the bird was still warm
when it was brought to him. He
reckoned that it had died only a
few minutes previously.

A fine of \$20 was inflicted.

SALE OF SEDITIOUS LITERATURE.

BOOKSELLERS FINED.

Two Chinese booksellers were be-
fore Mr. Williams at the Central
Magistrate's yesterday charged with
possession and distribution of sedi-
tious literature.

According to the evidence, the
first defendant's store at Tai Yuen
Street was pointed out to Chinese
constables as having seditious pam-
phlets for sale. The bookseller was
arrested and taken to Central Police
Station.

On being told that he obtained
the pamphlets from another book-
seller in Lower Macao Row, Police
officers proceeded to the address
given and arrested the second de-
fendant.

His Worship fined the first de-
fendant \$50 on the charge of dis-
tributing and cautioned him on the
other charge, while the second de-
fendant was fined \$250 on the
possession charge.

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eson's: Yatshing; Douglas LaPraik:
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Chiu On; Hydrangea.

Docks:—Kowloon: Kurimaran,
Tin Yat, Utrecht, Kwangtung,
Lima, Cheongching; Taikeo: Paul
Beau, Charles, Hardouin, Tyn-
darius, Tan, Hangchow.
Buys:—A. E. Eumous, A. S. Hye
Mara, A. S. Lemaire, B. T. Tjilboet,
A. H. H. H. B. King, C. H. C. H.
Toyo Maru No. 1, C. H. Wing Wo,
B. H. H. H. B. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Change, B. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Prosper, C. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Haldia, C. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Langata, C. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Hinsang, C. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
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Little White Lies—Fox Trot
Gee, But I'd Like to Make You Happy—Fox Trot
No. 22492, 10-inch
WARRING'S PENNSYLVANIANS
I'd Like to Find the Guy That Wrote the Stein Song—F. T.
What's the Use—Fox Trot JOHNNY JOHNSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA
No. 22493, 10-inch

When Love Comes in the Moonlight—Fox Trot
We're On the Highway to Heaven—Fox Trot
JACKIE TAYLOR AND HIS ORCHESTRA
No. 22494, 10-inch

Good Evening—Fox Trot
Just a Little Closer—Fox Trot
No. 22495, 10-inch
RUDY VALLEE AND HIS CONNECTICUT YANKEES

My Baby Just Cares for Me—Fox Trot
A Girl Friend of a Boy Friend of Mine—Fox Trot
No. 22496, 10-inch
TED WEEMS AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Tomorrow Is Another Day—Fox Trot
Looking for the Lovelight in the Dark—Fox Trot
No. 22497, 10-inch
JACKIE TAYLOR AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Go Home and Tell Your Mother—Fox Trot
I'm Doin' That Thing—Fox Trot
GUS ARNHEIM AND HIS COCONUT GROVE ORCHESTRA
No. 22498, 10-inch

Lonely—Fox Trot
F'r Instance—Fox Trot
No. 22499, 10-inch
BERNIE CUMMINS AND HIS NEW YORKER HOTEL ORCHESTRA

Confessin' (That I Love You)—Fox Trot
My Bluebird Was Caught in the Rain—Fox Trot
No. 22500, 10-inch
RUDY VALLEE AND HIS CONNECTICUT YANKEES

On a Little Street in Honolulu—Waltz
All Through the Night—Waltz
No. 22501, 10-inch
HILLO HAWAIIAN ORCHESTRA

Hullabaloo—Fox Trot
Baby Won't You Please Come Home—Fox Trot
No. 22502, 10-inch
MCKINNEY'S COTTON PICKERS

Olney, Baby—Fox Trot
I Want a Little Girl—Fox Trot
No. 22503, 10-inch
MCKINNEY'S COTTON PICKERS

Ida, Sweet as Apple Cider—Fox Trot
Dinah—Fox Trot
No. 22504, 10-inch
FESS WILLIAMS AND HIS ROYAL FLUSH ORCHESTRA

Just to Be With You To-night—Fox Trot
Everything's O. K. With Me—Fox Trot
No. 22505, 10-inch
FESS WILLIAMS AND HIS ROYAL FLUSH ORCHESTRA

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HONG KONG.

CRIMINAL CASES.

AU TAU MURDER TRIAL POSTPONED.

JURY DISAGREE IN A MINOR CASE.

At the opening of the Criminal Sessions yesterday before the Puisne Judge (Mr. Justice Jackson), Mr. H. Somerset Fitzroy, for the Crown, asked for the postponement of the Au Tau case, in which a woman is on trial for the murder of her husband, until next month's Sessions. Counsel pointed out that there had been developments in the case since the woman was committed for trial which required investigation, and further that Counsel for the defence (Mr. F. C. Jenkin) had only been instructed last Saturday and had therefore not had time to go fully into the facts. The trial was accordingly postponed.

Two other cases were disposed of by his Lordship during the day, the accused in one case pleading guilty to charges of simple larceny and wounding. The other case went before a jury who were divided in their verdict by five to two against the prisoner. This was accepted as a verdict of guilty.

Imprisonment and the "Cat."

Ng Lam pleaded guilty to charges of larceny of 43 cents from a six-year-old girl and wounding a woman named Ho Chi with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

Outlining the facts of this case, Mr. Fitzroy said that the accused, appeared to have gained access to the first floor of 210, Lockhart Road, close to the No. 2 Police Station, by climbing the drain pipe. He took the money and went to the kitchen where Ho Chi was sleeping. The woman apparently got up and seized the man, whereupon he picked up a chopper and committed a murderous assault. Counsel read a report from Dr. Thomas which showed that she was admitted to hospital suffering from serious wounds and that at one time she was in danger of her life.

Addressing the prisoner, his Lordship said that while the first charge was one of simple larceny, the other count was very serious in that he had attacked the woman and caused grievous bodily harm. A concurrent sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labour was passed on each of the charges. Prisoner was also ordered to be given 12 strokes of the "cat" in addition to the second count.

Incident at Wanchai.

Au Nam pleaded not guilty to a charge of robbery of a pair of earrings and took his trial before a jury comprising Messrs. J. Brook (foreman), J. M. Alarackia, R. Taylor, A. W. Eastman, F. M. Garcin, A. H. Madar and P. A. Neethand.

Outlining his case, Mr. Fitzroy said that the accused went to 11, Swatow Street, a house of ill-fame, and arranged with an inmate to stay the night. Shortly after two other men entered and joined the accused in the same cubicle. They smoked opium and subsequently the accused seized the woman by the throat. In the course of the attack the woman was robbed of her earrings. The alarm was raised and the men ran out into the street, where an Indian constable caught one of them, the accused, while the others made their escape and had not been traced.

Evidence being given by the complainant and other witnesses, the accused elected to give evidence from the witness-box. He said that after he had made arrangements to stay for the night he went out to buy cigarettes, when he met a friend and another man. He invited them to the cubicle. Witness continued that he had a disagreement with the woman and asked the money back. This was refused and the woman subsequently accused him of stealing the jewellery. The two other men had by this time left the house.

Contradictory Evidence.

In summing up, his Lordship said that the evidence was contradictory on one point. The complainant had stated that the accused entered the cubicle first, and that the other two arrived at later intervals, each calling the accused by his name before entering the cubicle. Another woman had stated that the other two men arrived together shortly after the accused and went straight into the cubicle. The accused himself had said that he entered the cubicle together.

(Continued at foot of next column)

SEQUEL TO MOTOR COLLISION.

EVIDENCE BY INJURED EUROPEANS.

LORRY DRIVER FINED.

A collision between a motor-cycle driven by Mr. J. R. Pearne and a Standard Oil Co. lorry near Sai-goon Road on the morning of September 24 had its sequel at the Kowloon Magistrate's yesterday when the driver of the lorry was summoned for failing to give the recognised signal for turning.

Traffic Sub-Inspector A. Nicol prosecuted, and Mr. H. J. Armstrong held a watching brief on behalf of the Standard Oil Co.

Mr. John Reginald Pearne told the Court that on the morning of September 24 at about 9.40 he was driving his motor cycle, with his sister on the pillion seat, along Nathan Road towards the Star Ferry. His cycle was about eight yards behind the defendant's lorry which was proceeding in the middle of the road. When near the Majestic Theatre, the lorry turned to the left, and witness, thinking that the lorry had made room for him to pass tried to overtake it. The lorry, however, suddenly turned back to the right and witness' cycle collided with it. He was thrown to the ground and his sister fell on top of him. He did not hear any horn sounding nor did he see the defendant give the signal for turning. The defendant was "skylarking" with another man sitting next to him.

Mrs. A. M. Reynolds, sister of the last witness, gave similar evidence and added that she received severe injuries to her face and arms.

Eye-Witness' Story.

An eye-witness' account of the accident was given by Mrs. F. C. Britto, who stated that she was waiting for a bus opposite the Majestic Theatre on the day in question. She saw the defendant's lorry, which was in the middle of the road, suddenly turn to the left, and Mr. Pearne tried to pass it. However, the lorry turned to the right again to enter Sai-goon Road, and that was how the accident occurred. She did not see the defendant give the signal.

Cross-examined by Mr. Armstrong, witness stated that the reason why the defendant turned to the left was, in her opinion, that he wished to turn into Sai-goon Road. She did not hear any horn sounding either from Mr. Pearne's cycle or from the defendant's lorry.

The defendant stated in the witness-box that he was driving along Nathan Road. When near the Majestic Theatre he sounded his horn and signalled that he wished to turn into Sai-goon Road. While he was turning he felt an impact and on looking round saw the motor-cycle lying on its side.

His story was supported by two other coolies who were on the lorry at the time.

His Worship, in convicting the defendant, said he found that it had been proved that accused did not give the signal. He imposed a fine of \$5.

HOCKEY.

R.S.C. BEAT K.B.S.F.P.

The hockey match between the Kowloon British School Former Pupils Association and the Radio Sports Club at King's Park yesterday resulted in a victory for the latter team by three goals to nil.

His Lordship said that having heard the evidence the jury had to be satisfied that in the first place there had been a robbery. The accused was searched after his arrest, but nothing was found on him. In the second place they had to satisfy themselves that the accused was one of the three men taking part in the robbery. Although the accused did not take the earrings himself, he was still a partner in the crime if he had helped the others in committing it. If there was any doubt in the case his Lordship asked the jury to give the accused the benefit of it.

Jury Not Unanimous.

After a period of retirement the foremen of the jury announced that they were not unanimous in their verdict. Five were agreed on the prisoner's guilt and two against. His Lordship accepted this as a verdict of guilty and sentenced the accused to three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

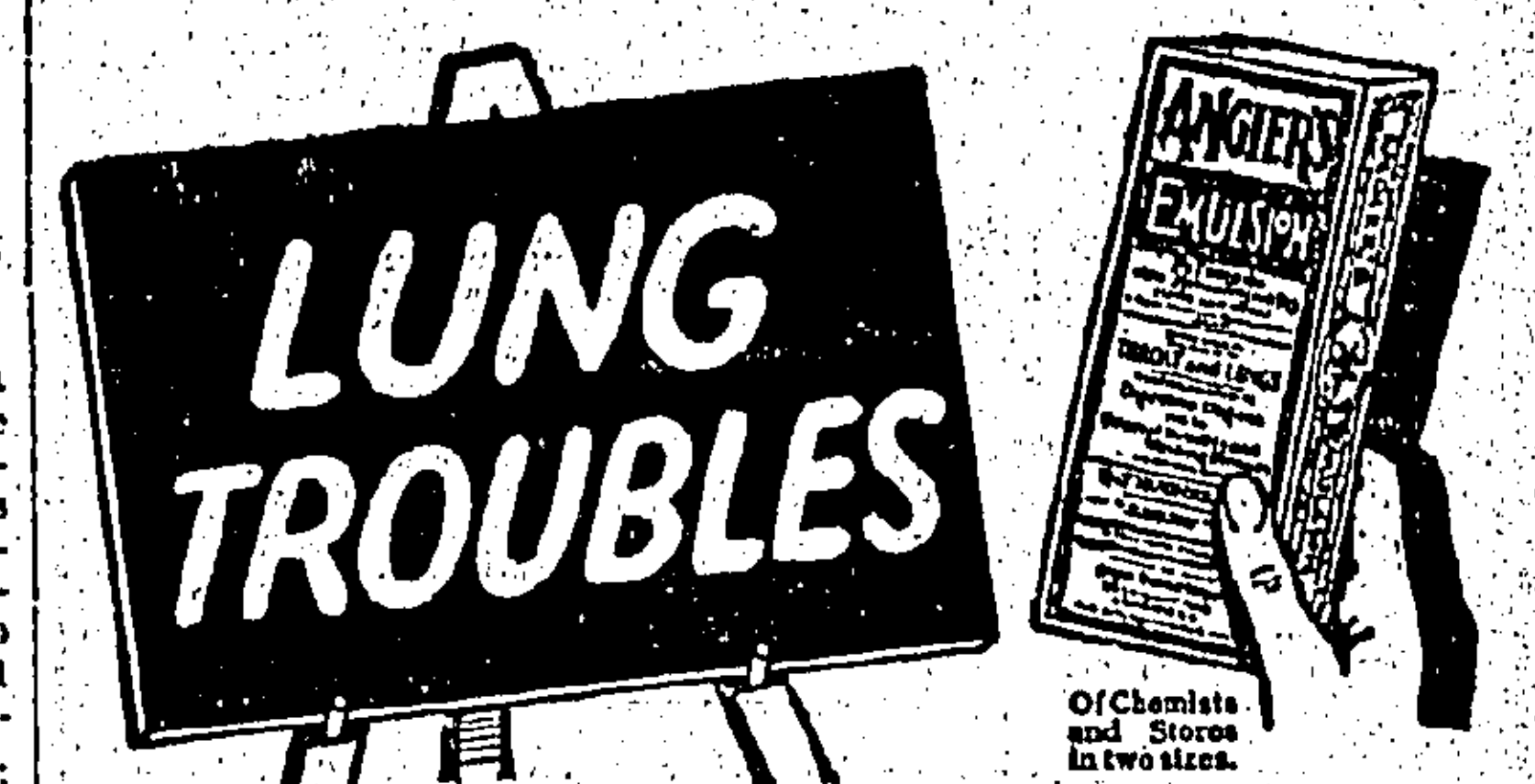
The Sessions will be continued at 10.30 a.m. to-day, three men being concerned in the last case on a charge of wounding.

EASTERN NEWS IN BRIEF

PARS FROM EVERYWHERE.

Mr. W. L. Jones, proprietor of a meat shop and Republican nominee for "M.P." in the Nebraska Parliament, lists the following expenses incurred during his political campaign:—\$900, rump steak. Extension of credit on meat bills to twenty-six non-pay customers. 101 hot-dog (Frankfurter sausage) sandwiches. 34lbs. Limburger cheese. 197lbs. cattle. 203 pairs of pigs' feet. 93 rings of Bologna sausage. 249lbs. mince meat. 45 hams. 26 sides of bacon. 4lbs. of lard. Four bonds for bootleggers signed.

The Nanking District Kuomintang has submitted a petition to the Nanking Government, asking that a strong protest should be lodged with the British Government against the alleged ill-treatment of Chinese in the Straits Settlement who are members of the Kuomintang. They also demand the punishment of the Chinese Consul-General in Singapore for failing to take up the matter with the British authorities strongly. The latter official, by the way, is Mr. Tong Lee, a son of Mr. Tong Shao Yi, the veteran Kuomintang statesman and diplomat.



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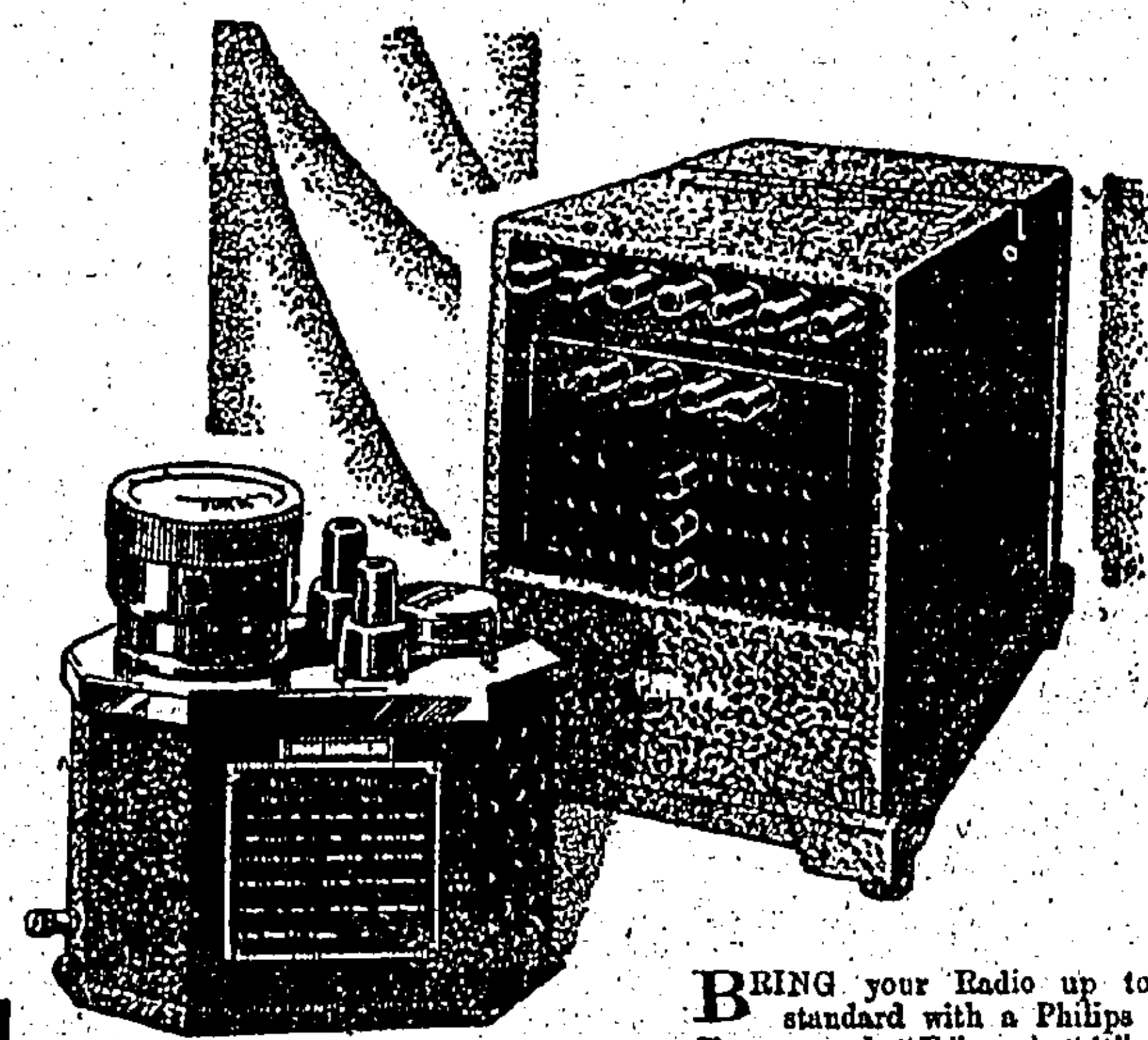
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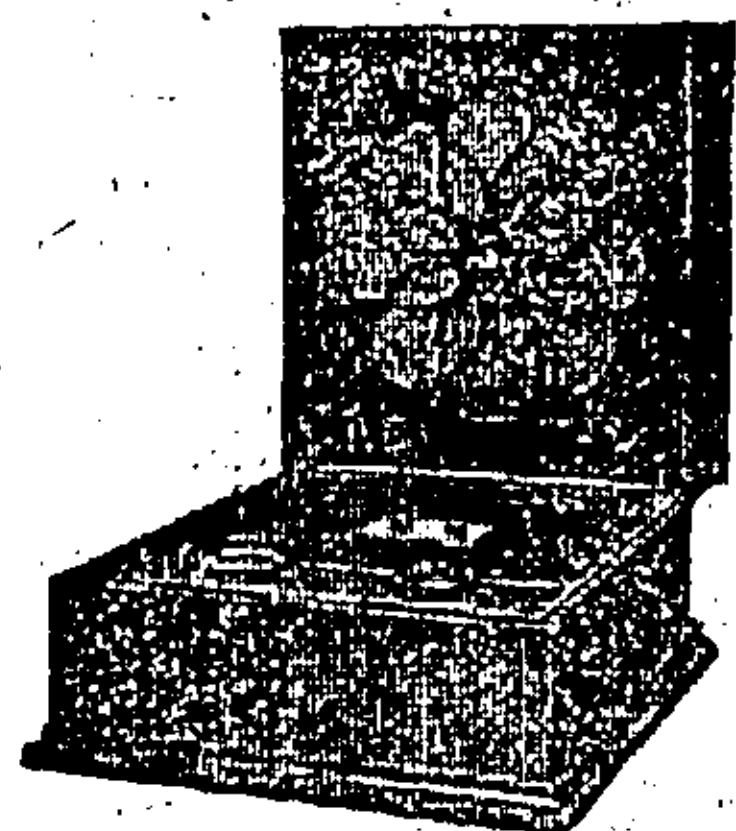
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An entirely new model incorporating the new
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"HIFLUX" Transformer.

PRICE COMPLETE: £26.0.0

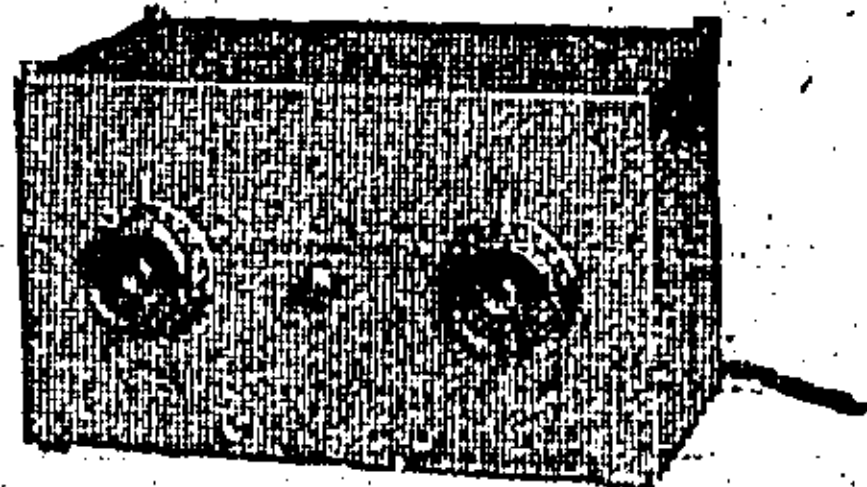


B.C. 3036. SCREEN GRID SHORT
WAVE RECEIVER.

THREE VALVE MODEL.

For wavelengths of approximately 14 to 100 metres. Metal case, finished dark brown crystalline enamel. Incorporates two tuning condensers with double spaced vanes. A potentiometer is fitted for varying the bias on the detector valve. A screen grid valve precedes the detector and this enables the set to oscillate easily on all wave bands irrespective of the length of the aerial; there are no "blind" spots. By using appropriate coils, this set may be used on ordinary broadcast wavelengths.

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GOVERNOR CRITICIZES LUXURIOUS TENDENCIES.

EXTRAVAGANT STANDARDS OF LIVING CONDEMNED.

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES DRAW UNOFFICIAL COMMENT.

TRADE AND SHIPPING ENDANGERED BY NEW TAXATION:
MILITARY CONTRIBUTION CONSIDERED HEAVY.

NO IMMEDIATE RELIEF BY RETRENCHMENT: CIVIL
SERVANTS' SALARIES TO BE RE-ADJUSTED.

Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council presented the Government with a formidable list of objections and criticisms when the Budget for 1931, amounting to \$23,305,335, came up for debate yesterday.

In the course of his remarks, the Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow said that the proposed additional taxation was very unfortunate, because it came at a time when the Colony was suffering from a serious depression of trade, which showed little prospect of an early improvement.

The Hon. Mr. J. Owen Hughes gave detailed figures of personal emoluments proposed for 1931 as compared with present figures, showing the percentage of increase. He also drew the Government's attention to the high cost of conveyances and motor allowances, which ranged from \$130 in one Department to \$50,000 in another. He felt sure the Retrenchment Committee would go into this question.

Presenting the views of the Chinese community, Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall stated that the proposed Assessment Tax was strongly disfavoured. Several alternative forms of taxation were suggested by Dr. Kotewall, including the suggestions made recently at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. The question of Military Contributions was mentioned by this member, and the view that a reduction of percentage now being paid by the Colony should be reduced was brought forward.

SHIPPING ENDANGERED.

The Hon. Mr. C. Gordon Mackie described the proposed tax on shipping as wrong in principle. He claimed that Hong Kong derived much benefit from shipping, and that this asset should be maintained at all costs. The Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson said that coastal shipping was being run at a loss, and expressed fears for its future.

The Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga warmly urged the adoption of certain parts of the report of the Salaries Commission wherein it was suggested that local talent should be employed wherever possible in order to save the cost of transport in the case of foreign employed Civil Servants.

The Hon. Dr. Tso expressed regret that increased taxation was being introduced to meet the drop in exchange and the bigger emoluments now granted, and urged stabilisation of the dollar.

The Hon. Mr. Paul Lauder suggested that half the salaries of sterling-paid employees be fixed at 1/6, and the other half at the current or Treasury rate.

CIVIL SERVANTS' SALARIES.

After the Colonial Secretary had replied to the objections raised by the Unofficial Members, His Excellency the Governor stated, in the course of a lengthy speech, that he was prepared to instruct that, in the conversion of sterling salaries, half shall be converted at the current rate and the other half at 1/6. This, of course, will be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State. The step would mean a saving of roughly \$400,000 of public money.

Those who feared that the Government would welcome the introduction of a tax on racing will be pleased to learn that, while the idea of taxing betting at local race-meetings is not definitely abandoned, for the time being the only tax which will be imposed on racing will be amusement-tax.

His Excellency, referring to comments on the amount contributed by the Colony for defence, said he feared the Secretary of State would not agree to any reduction of the sum now paid.

"COLONY LIVING ON CAPITAL," SAYS CHINESE LEADER.

There were present:—

H.E. Sir William Peel, K.B.E.,
O.M.G.,
H.E. Major-General J. W. Sandilands, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, C.M.G.,
C.B.E.,
Hon. Mr. C. McI. Messer, O.B.E.,
Hon. Mr. H. T. Cressy, C.B.E.,
Hon. Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C.,
O.B.E.,
Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.M.G.,
Hon. Mr. A. E. Wood,
Hon. Comdr. G. F. Holo, R.N. (retired),
Hon. Dr. A. R. Wellington,
Hon. Mr. J. Owen Hughes,
Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow,
Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall, C.M.G.,
LL.D.,
Hon. Dr. S. W. Tso, O.B.E.,
LL.D.,
Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga,
Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson,
Hon. Mr. P. Lauder,
Hon. Mr. C. G. Mackie, and
Mr. E. W. Hamilton (clerk of Council).

HON. SIR SHOU-SON CHOW.

The Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow said:—

Sir,—It is my privilege for the third time to present the joint views of the Unofficial Members of the Council on the Budget, after which certain of my honourable colleagues will, as is customary, make some observations of their own.

This is Your Excellency's first Budget, and although it is not one that can provoke our enthusiasm, since a considerable portion of the increased expenditure necessitating increased taxation is directly attributable to the general revision of salaries, we respectfully tender Your Excellency our congratulations on the able manner in which you have grappled with the unusual difficulties of its production.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary's speech, and the Hon. Colonial Treasurer's memorandum on the Revenue, have made clear the financial position of the Colony, and the summaries now added to each Departmental Estimate, as a result of representations made last year by the Unofficial Members, are an improvement, showing at a glance the total expenditure of each Department.

A Missing Document.

On the other hand, there is one important document which we have missed this year. It is the statement showing the difference between the approved Estimates of expenditure for 1930 and the Estimates of ex-

penditure for 1931. For about twenty-three years, except for one or two years during the Great War, this abstract has invariably been presented with the Estimates; it is a very useful document in that it not only accounts for the increase and decrease in the expenditure under each head, but also shows such differences in total under the title "Recapitulation."

Personal Emoluments.

For instance, the abstract presented last year enabled us to tell at a glance how much of the total increase in personal emolument was due to the creation of new posts, how much to stipulated increments, and how much to other emoluments, just as it enabled us to find out how much saving was to be effected by the abolition of posts, how much by reductions due to new appointments, and how much by other readjustments. This year, in the absence of such a statement, we have not been able to ascertain these important facts, though it is more necessary now than in previous years, for the public to know how the total of personal emoluments is made up, especially what total increase is entailed by the revision of salaries.

Absence of Explanatory Notes.

The sentiment of the footnotes was commented upon by the Unofficials last year, and the then Colonial Secretary promised to repair the omission in future Estimates. This has been done in the Estimates of expenditure, but in the Estimates of revenue there is not a single explanatory note to account for the increases or decreases shown therein. The Hon. Colonial Secretary, in his speech, and the Hon. Colonial Treasurer in his memorandum, gave some explanations, but they covered only a few selected sub-heads, leaving unexplained innumerable items showing differences between the Estimates for 1930 and the Estimates for 1931.

Colony Living On Its Capital.

The proposed augmentation of existing taxes and the imposition of new taxes, though unfortunate in these times, seem to us unavoidable, when we consider that the Colony is at present living to an appreciable extent on its capital, and that resort has been made, and will have to be made, to public loans to finance certain public works of urgent importance. But while we speak of new taxation as being unavoidable, it must not be thought that we agree with the Government that the Colony is in the position of the position of the railway would be interesting.

is not as heavily taxed as some other colonies, it should be remembered that the cost of living in Hong Kong is higher than that of most places in and out of China. But whether our reasoning is sound or not, the additional taxation is very unfortunate, coming as it does at a time when the Colony is suffering from a serious depression of trade, with little prospect of an early revival.

I will now proceed to examine individual items of the estimates of revenue.

Public School Fees.

On page 9 we find that the Vote for public school fees shows an increase of \$22,000. Although, when last year's Estimates were before the Council, the Hon. Sir Henry Pollock on behalf of the Unofficial Members asked the Government to consider whether such fees might not be reduced, we do not demur to the present proposal, as we consider it not unreasonable. It affects only the upper form of King's College and Queen's College and five other Government schools, where the fees in the past have been low in comparison with those of other schools.

Use of Motor Vans.

On the same page, the vote "Use of Motor Vans" shows an increase from \$7,500 to \$25,000. We do not understand the purpose of the item, nor can we conjecture the reason for its large increase.

Message Fees.

On Page 9, again, the item "Message Fees" under "Post Office" is increased by \$170,000. We should like to know whether these messages are all transmitted by wireless or, if not, by what other means they are transmitted. The public would be interested to know what revenue the Colony receives in return for the large and growing expenditure of the Wireless-Sub-Department, for in addition to the annually recurrent charges shown under the Sub-Department proper, provision is made under the Public Works Department for special expenditure amounting to \$70,700.

More Information Wanted About Kowloon-Canton Railway.

The revenue from the Kowloon-Canton Railway shows a slight decrease of about \$1,000, as we see from page 10; while on pages 97-106 under expenditure we find that the staff of the Department has been augmented and a larger supply of coal and locomotive oil has been required. A statement of the position of the railway would be interesting.



Decreased Miscellaneous Receipts.

On page 11 the item "other miscellaneous receipts" shows a drop from \$200,000 to \$20,000, but no explanation is given as to why the Government expects this very considerable reduction.

In the absence of any explanatory note, we are similarly unable to tell why royalties on wireless telegraphy shown on the same page are expected to yield nothing in 1931.

These points, as well as innumerable others concerning the estimates of revenue, would doubtless have been made clear by short footnotes such as, until a few years ago, were inserted in the estimates.

Expenditure: Afforestation.

Turning now to the Estimates of expenditure, we find on page 20 that the money provided for afforestation in the District Office, North, has been reduced from \$22,000 to \$800, and on page 21 the sum provided for the same service in the District Office, South, has been entirely deleted. Last year the Hon. Sir Henry Pollock, speaking on behalf of the Unofficial Members, suggested that the figures budgeted for afforestation work in 1930 might be doubled in future years. We recognise that in these times economy must be practised on every hand, but we hope that, as soon as funds permit, the figures standing in the current Estimates may be restored, for in our view the afforestation of the barren hills of the New Territories is a necessary work. Judicious planting would not only beautify the landscape but improve the quality of the soil, strengthen the ground against landslides, and make the Colony less dependent on outside sources for its fuel.

Refuse Tug.

A new launch for the Sanitary Department at a cost of \$62,000 is provided for on page 24. We are glad to have the promise of the Hon. Colonial Secretary that if this expenditure is approved by this Council the Government will further reference to the Council. Thus, the Unofficial Members will have the opportunity of carefully considering whether the launch is absolutely necessary, and if so, whether the necessity is immediate.

Maintenance and Supply of Furniture.

On page 74, under Technical Institute, the item "Lecturing Staff" has been raised from \$13,000 to \$10,470. We should like an explanation of this substantial increase.

On page 77, item No. 7, Maintenance and Supply of Furniture under Public Works Department is increased by \$31,500, from \$10,500 to \$42,000. The Government has footnotes that part of the increase was previously included in Public

Works Extraordinary. We are not informed how much of the \$31,500 was so included nor are we given any explanation regarding any part of this sum that may not have been so included. We are glad that the Government has made provision for the maintenance and supply of furniture under "Other Charges" of the Department instead of under the Head "Public Works Extraordinary," which should be reserved for public works of a non-recurrent nature.

Exchange and Military Contribution.

Concerning military contributions, shown on page 108, the Hon. Colonial Treasurer, in reply to a question put by the Senior Unofficial Member in 1929, stated that the Colony had not so far paid military contribution on any profit due to exchange, as the question was still under discussion with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. We should like to be informed what decision has been reached in this matter.

Precedence for Waterworks.

Though the financing of the Shing Mun and Aberdeen Waterworks is by public loan and does not therefore strictly come within Estimates, it is nevertheless a part of public expenditure, paid out of public money raised on loan, and we therefore consider this an appropriate occasion to speak on the subject. We express the earnest hope that the Government will not allow the stringency of the economic situation to impede for one day the progress of these most urgent and important works. They are works which should take precedence of all others, and in the words of Sir Cecil Clementi, should be pressed rapidly to a successful conclusion.

Administrative Expenses.

We have offered no comments on the present heavy expense of the Colony's administration, because the Hon. Colonial Secretary has informed us that in its efforts to economy the Government had largely left the question of personnel to the Retrenchment Commission. We sincerely hope that the labour of the commission will be productive of satisfactory results.

Economy and Efficiency.

Finally I wish, on behalf of the Unofficial Members, to pledge to your Excellency our support of your policy of exercising as much thrift as is consistent with efficiency, and our co-operation in your difficult task of guiding the Colony through a period of depression which we hope will not be of long duration. Though we may be disquieted by the stormy weather, and even as they doubt the sturdiness of the ship, we have entire confidence in the skill of the captain and his crew.

(Continued on Page 7.)

GOVERNOR CRITICIZES LUXURIOUS TENDENCIES.

PERCENTAGE OF INCREASES.

CHINESE COMMUNITY ALARMED.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

HON. MR. OWEN-HUGHES.

The Hon. Mr. J. Owen Hughes said:—

Sir,—The Hon. Senior Unofficial Member in the address we have just listened to has very ably reviewed the speech of the Hon. Colonial Secretary in introducing the Estimates for 1931, and has presented the joint views of the Unofficial Members to this Council, but he has already indicated, his colleagues will as customary make their own observations.

As Senior of the European members present it is my privilege now to make some further observations. I do not propose to address the Council at great length, as my colleagues will also desire to take part in the discussion.

Tribute to the Governor.

I would like first of all to associate myself and my European colleagues in the reference made by the Hon. Senior Unofficial Member to this, Your Excellency's first Budget, and further, if I may be permitted, to express our admiration of the manner in which you have dealt with the many important matters that have been brought before you since assuming the duties of your high office.

Disregarded Warning.

On the first occasion of your presiding over this Council just four months ago, my Unofficial colleagues and I did our utmost to persuade the Government to cut its cost according to the cloth available, and pleaded for the appointment of a Committee to consider whether the Colony could afford the

elaborate garment recommended by the Salaries Commission in view of the unprecedented fall in the value of the dollar. Our arguments and pleadings were of no avail against the Official majority vote, nor was the almost unanimous voice of public opinion behind us allowed to weigh in the balance, and we were overwhelmed.

The "account" is now rendered, and a bill for no less than \$9,421,405 for personal emoluments is presented for payment on account of 1930, whilst it is estimated that under this heading alone, no less than \$12,727 for 1931 has now to be budgeted for at the very uncertain exchange figure of 1/3d.

It is a first duty of Government to balance its Budget for the coming year, and we are asked to-day to approve the method by which it is proposed to do so, a most difficult task, as all must admit.

Impossible to Ignore Increase.

No good purpose can be achieved by making more reference than is absolutely necessary to what has been done in the past in respect of salaries; but the result of the revision looms so large on every page of the draft Estimates for 1931 that reference to them cannot well be avoided, nor to the astounding increase in charges occasioned by the unprecedented fall in exchange. The Hon. Colonial Secretary, at the outset of his speech, refers to the above two considerations as seriously influencing the Government in their consideration of the Budget. In percentage as compared with last year's heading, the figures disclose the following increases:—

Percentages of Increase.

	1931 Estimate	Inc. case.	Percentage
His Excellency the Governor	\$ 155,890	\$ 52,273	50.4
Cadet Service	566,321	203,027	56.15
Senior Clerical and Accounting Staff	334,113	92,038	38.
Junior Clerical Service	916,050	162,155	21.5
Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature	60,626	13,716	20.34
Secretariat for Chinese Affairs	10,629	4,249	27.9
Treasury	84,653	38,108	23.05
Audit Department	72,084	23,028	45.22
District Office, North	24,317	893	3.91
District Office, South	12,340	1,078	8.8
Post Office	408,405	99,570	32.30
Wireless Telegraph Services	149,961	29,253	24.33
Imports and Exports Office	871,194	4,759	.5
Harbour Department	1,104,394	168,059	16.97
Air Services	154,563	46,512	23.13
Royal Observatory	71,012	33,010	91.4
Fire Brigade	326,479	54,085	14.21
Supreme Court	173,354	19,784	12.83
Attorney-General	47,328	12,498	38.
Crown Solicitor's Office	56,928	19,461	44.1
Official Receiver	18,631	4,936	24.78
Land Office	36,754	11,610	46.17
Magistracy, Hong Kong	2,399	110	4.9
Magistracy, Kowloon	2,190	72	3.4
Police Force	2,710,963	551,727	25.55
Prisons Department	715,369	127,085	21.8
Medical Department	1,440,535	236,974	19.6
Sanitary Department	554,276	102,713	20.55
Botanical and Forestry Department	119,597	12,691	11.24
Education Department	1,739,708	390,017	23.59
Public Works Department	2,056,928	384,451	22.2
Public Works, Recurrent	1,830,120	281,500	14.09
Public Works, Extraordinary	2,800,000	1,340,750	34.09
Kowloon-Canton Railway	947,547	287,332	22.95
Volunteer Defence Corps	103,680	5,153	3.85
Miscellaneous Services	1,490,955	136,660	10.09
Charitable Services	142,225	30,591	27.38
Pensions	1,228,000	315,000	34.5

From the above it is at once seen that there are enormous increases in almost every Department, and only by cutting down drastically the Vote for Public Works Recurrent and Public Works Extraordinary has it been possible to arrive at the balance forecasted, which means that much important and necessary work for the development of the Colony has to be left in abeyance, and, as the Hon. Colonial Secretary states in his speech, "Members will miss from the completed list one work or another which they would have liked included."

The New Taxes.

Coming now to the third factor which influenced the Government in the framing of the Budget for 1931, namely, the establishment of the Retrenchment Commission. At the late meeting of June 10 the Hon. Mr. Southern, in moving the resolution that Council adopt the Salaries Commission Report, said (I quote from Hansard):—"I am authorised to say that it has been decided to leave in abeyance the proposal to raise the Assessment Tax, though I must warn Hon. Members that it may still be necessary to impose some increase later on in order to balance the Budget for 1931, unless the Retrenchment Commission, which my hon. friend Mr. Owen Hughes is asking for, is able to effect such reforms that further taxation can be avoided."

Accepting the Inevitable.

The warning given was quite unnecessary, for it was obvious to all that in accepting the Salaries Commission's recommendations an in-

crease in Assessment Tax must be resorted to, and that quickly, and the taxpayer is now called upon (to start with) for the payment of an additional 4 per cent. not to mention additional taxes on tobacco and stamps, and new taxes on petrol, amusements, etc. Extra taxation being unavoidable, my colleagues and I are of the opinion—after careful consideration—that Government in its decision has chosen the lesser evil.

Exchange Uncertainties.

Leaving then salaries as settled (as unfortunately we cannot at present do otherwise), and leaving also the findings and recommendation of the Retrenchment Commission until their labours are completed, we have still the question of the uncertainty of exchange to consider, and what the effect will be if the figure of a 1/4 dollar is not realised? During the last four months exchange has but momentarily touched that rate. The average monthly rate has been:—June, 1/34; July, 1/31 1/16; August, 1/33 1/16; September, 1/31 1/16.

This question, however, will be more fully dealt with presently by my friend the Hon. Mr. Lauder. I will now follow the example of the Hon. Senior Unofficial Member and draw attention to some of the items in the Estimates.

High Cost of Official Transport.

Included in "Other Charges" in most Departments is the item conveyance and motor allowance, varying in amounts of \$130 under Treasury to \$50,000 for the Public Works Department. I make the total to be over \$16,000. I have no doubt the Retrenchment Commission will have this in mind as one for investigation, the aggregate is a high one, and could in my opinion be considerably reduced.

Harbour Office Expenses.

Coal and oil fuel for launches \$274,100, an increase of \$84,000. A more precise explanation than merely "considered necessary" is, I think, desirable, as also under Sub-head 12: Repairs, Minor Improvements and Stores for Launches and Bots, an increase of \$40,000 is also "considered necessary." Under Sub-head 18: Coal for offices, an additional \$1,000. Does this mean office fires, or can it be lower exchange? Under Sub-head 22: Training expenses of Marine Surveyor in England, \$16,200. How much longer are these charges likely to appear?

British Influence in Local Schools.

May I commend to your Excellency and the Government's notice an article on the subject of education which appeared in the *Hong Kong Daily Press* on the 11th instant.

I am at present not concerning myself with the relative claims of the institutions referred to in that article, or any other Grant-in-Aid or non-Government school, but it is very clear that unless the system of grants to these schools (which are staffed by British masters and mistresses) is changed, some of them will soon have to close their doors.

Fire Brigade Efficiency.

Whilst all reductions in expenditure are welcome, I trust the Chief Officer is quite satisfied there will be no loss of efficiency in consequence of the reduction in the number of drivers and firemen.

Printing in Prison.

It is to be hoped that work on the new printing-press approved by the Finance Committee early this year is being proceeded with, and that the new linotype machine will soon be installed and in working order, as printing is considered as likely to be a revenue-earning industry in Victoria Gaol. In conclusion, I repeat the pledge made by the Senior Unofficial Member, that your Excellency will have our support in your present policy of thrift, and, wherever possible, retrenchment.

HON. MR. C. GORDON MACKIE.

The Hon. Mr. Gordon Mackie said:—

Sir,—I wish to associate myself with the remarks made by my hon. friends, the senior Unofficial Member, Sir Shouson Chow, and Mr. Owen Hughes who have presented a very fair criticism of the Budget and the manner in which it is proposed to meet the heavy estimated expenditure. The levies to be imposed are in most cases reasonable but the suggested taxes on shipping, in the form of increased light dues and hire of buoys, are, I consider, wrong in principle. This form of taxation has been the subject of several debates in this Chamber in the past and it is one can judge from the records of the meetings the official attitude has been that shipping should only be taxed for specific purposes from which a direct benefit is obtained. In the present instance this can scarcely be put forward as an argument in favour of the suggested levies.

Hong Kong owes its very existence to shipping, and its prosperity has been largely built up from the benefits derived from the advantages obtaining to a free port. This great asset should be maintained as far as possible at all costs.

Quite apart from the objections to taxing shipping in order to augment local revenue, it must be admitted by all that this particular trade is passing through a very hard time, and it is only by the most rigid economy that many companies are able to carry on.

If it can possibly be done I would like to see the proposed taxes withdrawn. Failing that, Sir, I hope some assurance can be given that they will be considered in the nature of a temporary levy only, and will be removed when the finances of the Colony are on a healthier basis.

HON. DR. KOTEWALL.

The Hon. Dr. Kotewall said:—

Sir,—It is my privilege to present the views of the Chinese members of this Council on the Budget. The most important problem which engages the attention of the Council at this moment is how to find money to meet the increased expenditure for the coming year. The Government has proposed the imposition of fresh taxation in certain forms, among which is an increase of four per cent. in the assessed taxes, which, it is estimated, will yield an additional \$1,415,000.

Chinese Community Alarmed.

This particular impost has caused grave concern among the Chinese who constitute about 80 per cent. of the tax-payers. Representations have been made to the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce and to us by public bodies as well as by individuals, urging us to request the Government not to increase this item of revenue.

On the 13th of this month a very largely attended meeting of the General Committee of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce was held, when the matter was discussed at great length, and the opinion was expressed that in view of the bad times, when cost of living is very high and the volume of trade abnormally low, any increase in the rates would have an immediate reaction on the prosperity of the Colony. Means of raising revenue other than an increase in the rates were suggested, such as the taxing of race sweepstakes, the taxing of luxuries, including jewellery and other articles of personal adornment, the letting out of the ferry and bus services to public tender, the creation of a monopoly in pawnshops, the taxing of electricity and gas, and the increasing of the price of prepared opium sold by the Government.

Military Contribution.

A resolution embodying the first three suggestions was unanimously carried, as was a resolution expressing the opinion of the Chamber that the amount now payable for military contribution is excessive, and that representations should be made to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view to having the percentage reduced.

Proposed Restaurant Tax.

In addition to the suggestions put forward by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, another has been made directly to my Chinese colleagues and myself, namely, the imposition of a tax—estimated to yield about \$400,000 annually—on meals taken in restaurants and eating-houses. The tax would be levied on meals costing over 5 cents a head, so that the poor would not be affected. Such a tax already exists in Canton, and is said to yield a large revenue to the Government of Kwangtung.

The proposal to tax race sweepstakes has met with general approval, for it would entail no hardship on anybody, while it would yield a substantial revenue and would be easy to collect.

It has been suggested that a tax on luxuries would also present no difficulty in collection, as the shops could include the tax in the bill of cost.

It is recognised that nothing can be done with the ferry and bus services until the existing concessions have expired.

We have been reminded that a monopoly in pawnshops existed about thirty years ago in Hong Kong, and that such a monopoly still exists in the Straits Settlements, where the system has been working satisfactorily.

Very few are in favour of raising the price of prepared opium, for such a step would encourage smuggling.

Taxing Public Utility Companies.

The suggestion of levying a tax on electricity and gas has received much favour in that it is considered to be taxation that would be most evenly distributed and would cause the least inconvenience to all concerned. It is true that cheap electricity and gas are no less necessary than cheap rental, but effects so grievous as are expected to follow an increase in the assessed taxes would not follow a tax on electricity and gas, although in both cases cost of living would thereby be increased.

Lesser of Two Evils.

Here it is a case of choosing the lesser of two evils. We have been assured that the interests of the electric and gas companies would not suffer because of the tax, which it is suggested should be one cent per unit, at which rate the tax is expected to bring in half a million dollars at least.

These, then, are the views expressed by the advocates of the various alternative schemes. We have now only to examine them with the care which the importance of the subject demands, but we commend them to the very careful consideration of the Government.

Sorrow of Property-Owners.

My Chinese colleagues and I agree that any increase in the assessed taxes is inopportune as, apart from the general stagnation in trade, land development, after years of depression, is only just showing signs of revival, and any adverse factors such as this proposal would do much to set it back again. To the property-owner, a 4 per cent. increase in the rates would mean a 4 per cent. decrease in his return, and the reaction would be general. Already a case has come to my knowledge where the intending purchaser of a large property withdrew his offer to buy, immediately on hearing of the impending increase.

Why Building is Going On.

It should not be supposed that the present activity in building operations is an unmistakable sign of returned and settled prosperity. Some houses have had to be created because building covenants have had to be fulfilled; others have been and are being put up to meet the demand caused by unrest in the interior. As soon as peace manifests itself in the neighbouring provinces, a general exodus will ensue, as past experience teaches. We submit that the Government should do everything in its power to encourage land development, because more buildings will not only bring in more revenue, but relieve the congested parts of the Island.

Unavoidable Taxation.

Moreover, my Chinese colleagues and I recognise that, since the general increase in salaries is an accomplished fact, increased taxation is inevitable, as long as the rate of exchange remains at the present level, and that in the absence of alternative schemes of revenue, an increase in assessed taxes is unavoidable as a final measure to enable us to balance our accounts for the coming year.

The point is whether or not there are alternative schemes. Several have been put forward, and we hope that the Government will thoroughly explore their possibilities with a view to adopting some of them. If the proposed increase in the assessed taxes is passed by this Council to-day, we ask that in the event of other forms of taxation being devised, or of the rate of exchange rising, or again, of the financial position of the Colony improving generally, this 4 per cent. increase may be remitted or at least reduced proportionately.

The Cost of Military Defence.

I would now proceed to examine military contribution, to which attention has been drawn by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce. This item is increased from \$3,855,500 to \$4,754,220—a difference of \$898,720. It is an irony that while fresh taxation is about to be levied on it, the Colony is called upon to pay a further sum of nearly a million dollars, not because this sum is actually necessary to meet military services, but because we have to pay a prescribed percentage to the War Office, irrespective of the actual cost.

The community was greatly disappointed at the refusal of the Secretary of State to accede to Sir Cecil Clementi's request that military contribution on fresh taxes, levied to meet additional expenditure caused by the general revision of salaries, be waived as an act of grace. I can understand the reason which actuated the Secretary of State to make his decision; that reason appears to be that, so long as the existing arrangement in regard to military contribution exists, the 20 per cent. must be paid on any items of revenue, be they new or old, provided they are of a permanent nature; and the new taxation now proposed is in essence permanent, because it is levied to meet a permanent form of expenditure, namely, the increase of salaries.

Reduced Percentage Proposed.

It seems to me that the best way to tackle the problem is by way of a reduction of the percentage. I believe that some years ago a committee was appointed to enquire into the incidence of military contribution, and I am sure that a similar committee would be useful for the purpose of going into the question not only of the percentage to be paid, but also of the items of revenue which should be excluded from calculation. A reference to Appendix III of the draft Estimates will show how the present contribution is calculated.

Last year the Honourable Senior Unofficial Member enquired whether military contribution was paid on profits from the Colony's sales of investments, and the Hon. Colonial Treasurer in his reply said that contribution had hitherto been paid on profits which had accrued as the result of appreciation in the sterling price of investments. This is one item of revenue on which, in my opinion, contribution should not be paid; and there may be other items that come within the same category.

Vernacular Schools.

On page 71 of the Estimates, under the heading "Education Department," there is a sub-item for subsidies to elementary vernacular schools in Hong Kong is reduced from \$25,000 to \$20,000, a decrease of \$5,000. (Continued on Page 10.)

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS No. 52 of 1930.

IN THE MATTER OF HONG KONG AMUSEMENTS, LIMITED.

AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE 1911-1920.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition for Confirming the Reduction of the Capital of the above Company from \$200,000.00 to \$100,000.00 and for the Confirmation of a Scheme of Arrangement was on the 17th Day of OCTOBER, 1930, presented to the Supreme Court of Hong Kong and is now pending and that the List of Creditors is to be made up as for the 20th Day of OCTOBER, 1930.

Dated the 21st day of October, 1930.

(Signed) DEACONS,
Solicitors for the Company.
10204

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE NINTH EXTRA RACE MEETING will be held (Weather Permitting) at HAPPY VALLEY on SATURDAY, 27th OCTOBER, 1930, commencing at 2 P.M.
The First Bell will be rung at 1.30 P.M.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Members are notified that they and their Ladies must wear their Badges prominently displayed.
No One without a Badge will be admitted to the Members' Enclosure.
Badges admitting Non-Members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$5.00 for Gentlemen and \$2.00 for Ladies are obtainable through the SECRETARY upon introduction by a Member, such Member to be responsible for Payment of All Oils, &c.
Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will not be on sale at the Race Course.
Members can obtain upon application to the SECRETARY, Badges (Limited to Two) for the Free Admission to the Members' Enclosure of Wives, Lady Relatives and Friends. Names must be stated when applying.
On No Pretext will Children be permitted in either Enclosure during the Meeting.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.

The Price of Admission to the Public Enclosure is \$1.00 for all Persons, including Ladies, and is payable at the Gate.
Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform are admitted Half Price.
Bookmakers, the Tax Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the Precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.
By Order,
C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.
10002

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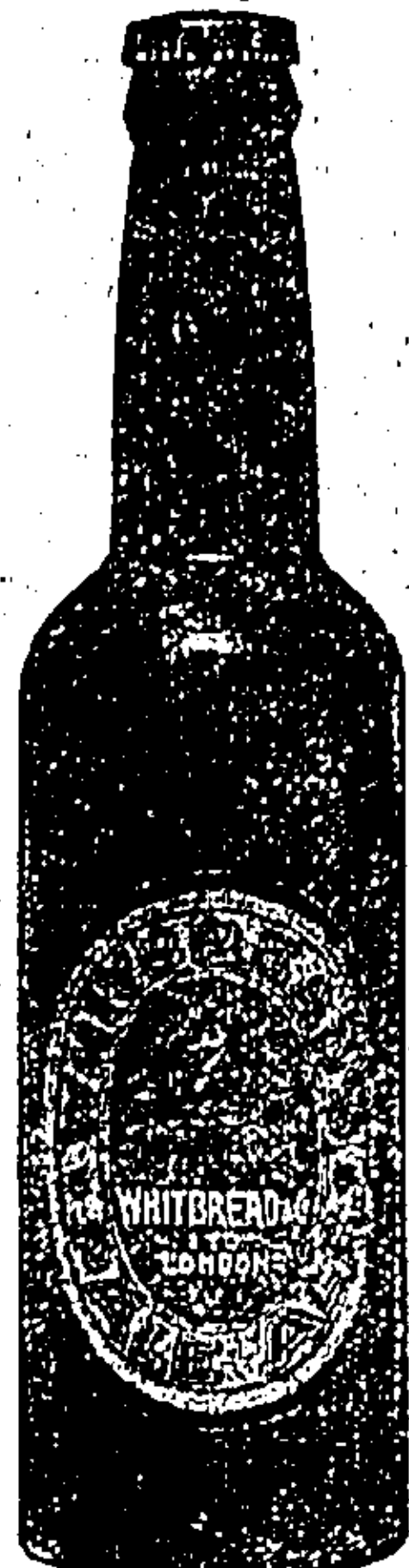
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WEATHER REPORT.

Yesterday's weather report, fore-
cast and remarks, issued by the
Royal Observatory at 4.55 p.m.,
stated:—

The anti-cyclone has increased in
intensity; the depression is cross-
ing central Japan on an easterly
track.

Local Forecast:—N.E. winds,
moderate; fine generally.

MARRIAGE.

FOUNTAIN-THOMAS.—On September
10, ENNEK MONTIUM THOMAS,
B.A. (Cantab) R.A.F., only son
of the late E. M. THOMAS, and
Madame MASSIMO DENSON, of
Villa Carina, Shanghai, to
ERLEEN MAY SCOTT, daughter
of the late JOSEPH FOUNTAIN of
Birthwaite Hall, Darton, Yorks,
and Mrs. FOUNTAIN of London.

DEATH.

WEBB.—On September 19, at Bristol,
England, after a long illness
KAVINSKY, the beloved wife of
PERCY E. WEBB, formerly of
Kobe.

Editorial and Business Offices: 11,
Ice House Street. Tel. 30251.

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E.C. 4.

The Daily Press.

HONG KONG, OCTOBER 21, 1930.

"ACCORDING TO PLAN."

ONLY in one respect was the Legis-
lative Council debate on the 1931
Estimates at all out of the ordi-
nary. The proceedings were held
before dawn instead of after. For
the rest, everything went "accord-
ing to plan." The Unofficial Mem-
bers each spoke their little piece,
and the Colonial Secretary (having
been very considerably informed
beforehand what most of them in-
tended to say) had a minimum of
difficulty in preparing his reply.

Sir WILLIAM PEEL, from the gub-
ernatorial chair, made a speech on
the approved lines, after which
honourable members were invited to
say whether or no they were in
favour of voting the 23 million
dollars asked for. The "ayes," of
course, had it. With a permanent
majority of Official Members on the
Council, the Government need never
be really very anxious as to the
fate of the Budget—nor of any
other measure, for that matter.

Coat-Cutting.

The Unofficial Members touched
upon the now threadbare analogy
of cutting a coat according to one's
cloth, and having reminded the
Government of the disregarded
warnings as to the consequences of
ignoring the amount of material
available, gave reluctant approval
to what they all believe to be an
extravagant design. One member
said the Colony is living on its
capital. Another spoke of the sad
sufferings of property-owners, and
argued that a boom in building was
not necessarily a sign of prosperity.
Yet another pointed out that the
big bill presented for acceptance
was due to increased salaries and
depreciated dollars, and pathetical-
ly urged the Government to leave
no stone unturned in its search
for some plan for stabilising the
dollar. Speaking of stones, such a
search would be as useless as the
labours of Sisyphus.

First "Axe" Victim Unmourned.

No question was asked by any
Unofficial Member yesterday, and
consequently no information was
given, concerning the reason for the
Government's decision not to con-
tinue its subscription to Reuter's
news service. As we pointed out
last August, the Press was actually
the first victim of the Government's
retrenchment policy. Following the
abundant assertion by an unbalanced
critic that \$33,000 was being
"frittered away" every year on
news which could be obtained from
the "local papers," the Government
announced its decision not to con-
tinue its annual subscription to
Reuter's service after April 30

next. Since not one of the Un-
official Members troubled to ask
why the Government has decided to
stop this contribution for news
cables, we must assume that the
matter is not considered by them
to be of any great interest or im-
portance. Possibly the Unofficial
Members do not read Reuter's
cables, and are indifferent whether
the local Press publish them or not.
Even if that is the case their silence
is inexcusable, for in that event
they should have raised the ques-
tion as to why public funds had
been "frittered away" for several
years at the rate of \$33,000 per
annum. However, whatever the ex-
planation of their inaction yester-
day, the fact remains that Reuter's
service of cable news appearing in
the local newspapers will be con-
siderably reduced after April 30
unless something very unexpected
happens meanwhile.

"Protection" for Hong Kong.

The heavy cost of military defence
was strongly commented upon by
several members yesterday, but Mr.
J. P. BRAGA called attention to an-
other form of protection which he
considers absolutely necessary. He
wants the industries of the Colony
defended against the competition of
heavily subsidised products. He is
in favour of "equality," but con-
siders that term should not mean
a state of affairs whereby local in-
dustry is left unprotected to fight
against what he describes as an
unfair competition. Such a state of
affairs, Mr. BRAGA thinks, makes it
impossible for our home industries
to make headway against those
rivals who, protected themselves
against competition, take advantage
of the Free-trade policy of this
Colony to put their products upon
the local market against those
turned out by our own home industries.

Well, there is only one way in
which home industries can be de-
fended against outside competition,
be it fair or otherwise. Hong Kong
must have a tariff drafted on do-
mestically Protectionist lines. Does
Mr. BRAGA seriously mean what he
says when he talks about such pro-
tection being given to Hong Kong's
industries? The subject is too big
to be dealt with now, but before
long we shall endeavour to show
that Mr. BRAGA's well-meant sug-
gestion would do very much more harm
than good to this Colony. The in-
ternational competition existing within
the narrow confines of British
territory is as nothing compared
with the possibilities of developing
local industry to supply needs out-
side the Colony. Mr. BRAGA seems
to have forgotten that Hong Kong
is not itself a great consuming
centre, either for home-made or im-
ported goods. It is first and last
a distributing centre, and its
prosperity as such is attributable
to its Free-trade policy. Hong
Kong is a free port. Its freedom
from restraint upon trade is econ-
omic justification for its existence.
Once we start protecting our infant
industries—either by a tariff or
by subsidies—we start committing
suicide. This argument will be
developed and supported at an
early opportunity.

A Legislative "Boycott."

The writer of a letter published
in our columns yesterday urged
that the Unofficial Members should
take a very bold course in protest-
ing against the Budget. The sug-
gestion was put forward much too
late to be of service—not that it
would have been acted upon had it
been made a month ago. Yet if any
individual in the community ever
has a friendly word of advice to
offer Unofficial Members through
the Press, he is quite right in bring-
ing it to their attention—but the
matter must be ventilated in good
time. However, simple the idea
may be, it is only fair to those to
whom it is submitted that they
have ample time to consider it and
decide upon acceptance or rejection.
An eleven-hour proposal that
Unofficial Members of the Legis-
lative Council should resign en bloc
is obviously so grave a suggestion
that, if seriously considered at all,
several days would be certainly
necessary in order that the gentle-
men directly concerned could dis-
cuss their line of action. But our
correspondent wanted the Unofficial
Members to do more than resign.

He wanted them also to "see to it"
that no one else in the Colony filled
their vacant seats "until there is
a definite prospect of a return to
sane government." How could
members who voluntarily left the
Legislative Council "see to it"
that their chairs remained vacant?
What pressure could they bring to
bear upon the Government's new
nominees which would induce those
so honoured to decline the pro-
ffered legislative laurels? Such an
organised policy of obstruction as
a protest against Government policy
would take considerable time to
organise. It would also call for
more moral courage than is to be
expected in this community.

Luxurious Living.

The Governor's references to high
standards of living, as distinct
from high costs, are certain to
arouse wide comment. Space will
not now permit of extended ex-
amination of his Excellency's re-
marks. Briefly, Sir WILLIAM PEEL
is of opinion that the high cost of
living have only themselves to
blame. Because they choose to live
more luxuriously than ever, they
find their money goes less far than
it used to. In these days it is rare
to meet men—or women—inclined to
follow what used to be called the
simple life. Low living and high
thinking never did appeal to any but
a negligible minority. To-day that
proportion of people is probably
smaller than ever it was. Students
of social economy all over the world
are deploring the spendthrift
methods of their reckless fellows.
What is described as the old-time
virtue of saving is said to be "out
of fashion." The enormous amounts
spent upon intoxicating drink, to-
bacco, women's dress, amusements,
and gambling (on as well as off the
Exchange) are regarded with horror
by economists. We have our full
share of extravagant spenders in
this Colony, but nevertheless it is
a fact—whether his Excellency
knows it or not—that the most
careful housewife will find actual
daily necessities cost her to-day
about 50 per cent. more than she
paid twelve months ago.

The Poor Fish.

Elsewhere readers will find a
full—perhaps too detailed—report
of yesterday's proceedings in the
Legislative Council. Now we have
time, and here we have space,
merely to summarise briefly and
comment as tersely upon the more
interesting aspects of the debate.
The proposed marine aquarium is
quite an excellent idea, but not
urgent. A few more years may well
be allowed to roll before poor fish
confined in glass tanks are given the
doubtful pleasure of looking at a
procession of equally unhappy crea-
tures passing by their windows.
There is much more important work
waiting to be done by various
branches of the Civil Service than
the construction of an aquarium.
Of much more general interest was
Sir WILLIAM PEEL's reference to the
construction of roads more for
pleasure than for profit, and of
still more vital concern was His
Excellency's pledge to recommend
to London the adoption of a
system for the conversion of ster-
ling salaries whereby a saving of
nearly \$400,000 will be effected.
That, in fact, was the only really
practical contribution to the day's
doings, and the community should
be grateful to the Governor for
doing what he has to temper the
wind to the shorn lamb. A peri-
odical visit to a marine
aquarium may have a pacifying
effect upon restless citizens, as was
suggested yesterday, but the spec-
tacle of one poor fish gazing at an-
other is not so exhilarating as the
prospect of reducing expenditure by
economies which leave efficiency un-
impaired.

★ News and Views ★

"In London," says the *Lancet*,
"there has been growing up a
voluntary contract system, run by
doctors for doctors, which is de-
scribed as combining the advantages
of the national scheme without its
disadvantages. For a capitation
fee of threepence per week, paid in
full to the doctor, the subscriber
becomes entitled to medical and
surgical treatment within the com-
petence and skill of a general
practitioner at the surgery or at
his house, including all needful
medicines. The scheme is growing
steadily in London, where there are
now 11,255 subscribers, a large pro-
portion of them being in the Pad-
dington and Kensington areas; and
there are 30 or more such services
now running in different parts of
the country."

The Czechoslovakia steel cartel,
as a result of the industrial situa-
tion, has decided to increase the
amount of exports according to the
industries engaged in steel produc-
tion.

An epidemic of "stink bomb"
hoaxing is causing great annoy-
ance in Wellingborough, Eng-
land. These chemical contrivances
pollute the atmosphere, wherever
they are thrown, with evil-smelling
sulphuretted hydrogen. Warehouses,
theatres and offices have suffered,
and in one case workpeople were
unable to enter a warehouse for
nearly an hour owing to the ter-
rible smell. So far as is known no
stink bombs are being sold in
Wellingborough, and it is thought
probable that youths with an
elementary knowledge of chemistry
are making an objectionable use of
their learning. A similar outbreak
occurred some years ago, when
amusement places were the worst
sufferers.

British Official unemployment
returns for last week show a fur-
ther growth by 14,500. The total
now stands at 2,107,000, which is
908,000 more than for the corre-
sponding period of 1929.

Colonel W. R. Goodwin, C.M.G.,
D.S.O., Commandant of the Royal
Ulster Constabulary depot, New-
townards, was burned to death
last month when his motor-car over-
turned between Newtownards and
Comber. Colonel Goodwin was
driving to his home, and a lorry
driver noticed that the back of the
car was on fire. He went in pur-
suit but was unable to overtake it.
Apparently the colonel discovered
that his car was alight, for he pulled
to the side of the road, but crashed
into a ditch and the car over-
turned. He made an effort to
escape, but the doors had jammed.
Colonel Goodwin, who was forty-
eight, had been commandant of the
R.U.C. depot since 1926. He was in
command of the 12th Royal Ulster
Rifles during the war.

M. William Fraser, president of
the Association of Finance Cor-
porations, speaking at New York,
declared that the total amount in-
volved in American bankruptcies
in the course of the year was some-
where in the neighbourhood of a
milliard dollars.

Three ingots of gold, weighing
75½ ounces, and estimated to be
worth £300, have been discovered
in a hollow log in a wood-heap in
the back yard of John Dundas,
aged seventy, of Wembley Park, a
suburb of Perth, Australia. The
log in which the gold was found
was a stump felled in September,
and had stood in the yard for
years, probably before the house
was built in a comparatively new
district. Dundas took the gold to
the police, who have lodged it at
the mint for safe custody for three
months awaiting a claimant, and
if, at the end of that period, no
claimant appears, it will be return-
ed to the finder. Detectives think
that the gold was stolen years ago
and secreted in the stump by the
thief.

M. Blankenstein, the correspon-
dent of the *New York Herald Tribune*,
has been elected president for 1930-
31 of the Association of Journal-
ists credited to the League of Na-
tions at Geneva.

A report regarding the Sino-
Japanese Boxer Indemnity Agree-
ment appeared recently in the
Shunpo. According to this, the
Chinese Government has sent a
Note to Japan, suggesting that the
Sino-Japanese Boxer Indemnity
Agreement entered into between
Japan and the former Peking
Government should be cancelled and
that the full amount of the Japan-
ese portion of the returned Boxer
Indemnity Fund should be handed
over to the Chinese Government to
be appropriated in such ways as
desired by the Chinese. The Japan-
ese Government, it is reported, has
agreed to a revision of the said
agreement, but not to its cancella-
tion.

The Italian newspapers continue
to publish details of the daily
journeys of Il Duce. Driving his
own car Signor Mussolini has visit-
ed schools and many other works
in the colonies founded for or-
phans of the recent earthquake.
In jocular mood, Il Duce told
journalists: "I authorize you to
state that I am ill."

Mr. Bernard Shaw, in his pre-
face to "The Poems of Mihail
Eminescu" translated by Miss E.
Sylvia Pankhurst, writes:—"The
translation is astonishing and out-
rageous: it carried me away.
Sylvia: you are the queerest idiot-
genius of this age—the most un-
governable, self-intoxicated, blind-
ly and deadly wilful little reprob-
and that over imposed itself on the
infra-red end of the revolutionary
spectrum as a leader; but that you
had this specific literary talent for
rhyming and riding our words at
a gallop has hitherto been a secret."
Eminescu was a Rumanian journal-
ist who died of insanity in 1889,
in Bucharest.

A mysterious affair is reported
from the Finnish-Soviet border-
near which the former President
of the Finnish Republic Stahberg
with his wife was found stranded
in a motor car wherein, they stated,
they had been abducted, presum-
ably by Communists who conveyed
them over a distance of 450 kilome-
tres. Further details and explana-
tions are still lacking.

A four-year-old child living with
her parents at Jette, near Brus-
sels, was suffering from a malady
which, the surgeon decided, could
only be cured by an operation. The
little girl's mother was driven
frantic by the idea that her baby
was to undergo it. She procured
a rifle, shot her daughter in the
back and herself in the breast. The
two victims were found by the
horror-stricken surgeon and taken to
hospital, where they died shortly
after admission.

According to Mr. Charles Ernest
Parks, an Asot-under-Wychwood
eggs merchant, Oxford profers bad
eggs. "I went in for National
Mark eggs, and since May last
year I have lost £400," he said
at Oxford Bankruptcy Court. He
attributed his failure to a "too
confiding faith" that the Govern-
ment would enforce the National
Mark system of grading eggs.
Oxford, he said, would rather have
bad eggs than good ones.

Royal Air Force-pilots have been
carrying out high-speed research
work with aeroplanes at Folking-
stone, and have attained speeds greatly in
excess of the record of 337 miles an
hour established by Squadron-
Leader Orlin. It is understood
that Great Britain, the holder of
the Schneider Trophy, will be chal-
lenged by Italy and France, and
possibly America, next year, and
that the race will again be flown
over the Solent.

★ Local Notes and Events ★

For driving a motor cycle with-
out a driver's licence Mr. Kirby
was fined \$10 by Mr. Butters at
the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday.

The annual general meeting of
the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club
Ladies' Section will be held in the
Helena May Institute on Wednes-
day, October 22, at 11 a.m.

Mr. J. Cotton of the Hong Kong
Hotel Casino was fined \$10 by Mr.
Butters at the Kowloon Magistracy
yesterday for driving a motor car
in Nathan Road, a place which was
not allowed in his learner's licence.

A fine of \$250 or two months'
hard labour was imposed by Mr.
L. E. Lindell on a Honolulu
Chinese for the possession of two
revolvers and a quantity of am-
munition. It was stated that the
man was arrested on the Shekai
ferry.

Two American seamen employed
on board the President Grant were
fined \$10 each by Mr. Butters at
the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday
for throwing fire-crackers to the
danger of the public in Canton
Road.

The pupils of the Young Chung
Girls' College gave a clever per-
formance of Chinese dancing at
the Ho Shing Theatre on Saturday
to celebrate Confucius day. There
was a very large attendance and
the girls, who took part in the dan-
cing displayed some very fine talent.

Remarking that the defendant
seemed to enjoy being in goal, Mr.
Lindell at the Central Magistracy
yesterday, sentenced a returned
prisoner to 12 months' hard labour
and forfeiture of the franchise. It was
stated that the defendant had spent
the best part of the last ten years
in prison.

Looking Back 25 Years.

The centenary of the Battle of
Trafalgar marked on Saturday
by both H.M.'s ships and the mer-
chant vessels in the harbour mak-
ing the usual display of bunting.
Hong Kong Daily Press, Oct. 23,
1905.

Looking Back 50 Years.

A useful and important addition
to the means of local intercom-
munications was commenced yester-
day by the laying of a
submarine telegraph cable be-
tween Kowloon peninsula and
Victoria. The locality selected for
the crossing is the narrow strait
between Hungsham and Whitfield
police-stations, which is well clear
of the roadstead and where there
is no risk of the cable being fouled by ship's an-
chors. *Hong Kong Daily Press*,
Oct. 21, 1930.

Subscription price—\$12 per annum for delivery in Hong
Kong \$13; including Postage to
any part of the world—\$18.

SHANSI ECONOMIC SITUATION.**FARMERS HOLDING UP GRAIN SUPPLIES.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PEIPING, Oct. 20.

The economic situation in Shansi is continually becoming worse, and the provincial bank-notes are practically worthless.

The post office, railway and telegraphs all demand payment in silver.

The farmers are holding up grain, as they refuse to sell for Shansi notes.

As a result prices are soaring, and in spite of there being the best harvest for many years there is a serious undercurrent of discontent.

SHANSI FORCES DISARMED.**SOUTHERN BORDER OF PROVINCE UNGUARDED.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PEIPING, Oct. 20.

It is reported in Taiyuanfu that Shih Yu San has disbanded a number of the Shansi forces. Hence the southern border of the province remains unguarded.

The Shansi troops are returning from Shihchiachuang to the South. All motor buses in South Shansi have been commandeered for the transport of troops.

FENG AND WANG MEET YEN.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PEIPING, Oct. 20.

A message from Taiyuanfu states that Feng Yu Hsiang arrived there on the 14th inst., and left almost immediately with Wang Ching Wei in order to meet Yen Hsi Shan.

All three returned to Taiyuanfu on the evening of the 16th inst.

KUOMINCHUN COMMANDER SURRENDERS.**ACCEPTED BY NANKING.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NANKING, Oct. 20.

The surrender of Sun Lien Chung, an important Kuominchun commander, and his troops has been accepted.

OBITUARY.**MR. ALEXANDER McROBERT, M.P.**

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, Oct. 19.

The death occurred suddenly last night of Mr. Alexander McRobert, the Conservative member of Parliament for East Renfrew.

He was Lord Advocate for Scotland in the Baldwin Government.

Deceased was 57 years of age and had been a member of Parliament for six years only. He was educated at the Paisley Grammar School and the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, where he took up law, being called to the Scottish Bar in 1897.

He became connected with Government during the War when he was employed at the Admiralty. He was Sheriff of Forfarshire in 1923, but resigned in the following year to contest East Renfrew.

CAPT. JAMES MCGREGOR.

LONDON, Oct. 19.

The death is announced of Capt. James McGregor, ex-Commander of the Glen Line.

EDWARD VIRGINIUS VALENTINE.

RICHMOND (Va.), Oct. 19.

The death is announced of the well-known sculptor, Mr. Edward Virginus Valentine.

T. V. SOONG VISITING CANTON.**ARRIVING ON EMPRESS OF FRANCE.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SHANGHAI, Oct. 20.

Mr. T. V. Soong, Finance Minister, is proceeding to Canton on board the Empress of France, leaving Shanghai on the 21st inst., on a short visit of inspection, and will return before the end of the month.

FIGHTING AT TUNGKUAN.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SHANGHAI, Oct. 20.

Fighting is still reported to be taking place in the vicinity of Tungkuan between the Government forces and those of the Kuominchun.

CHINESE STOWAWAYS AT MARSEILLES.**NO TICKETS, PASSPORTS OR LANDING PERMITS.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MARSEILLES, Oct. 19.

Eleven Chinese stowaways, who arrived at Marseilles from Shanghai on board the Messageries Maritimes liner Sphinx, were arrested to-day as they were about to embark for Paris without tickets, passports or landing permits.

"GAZETTE DU FRANC."**SEQUEL TO MEETING OF CREDITORS.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRUSSELS, Oct. 19.

A sensational allegation is made in *La Libre Belgique* that as a sequel to the meeting of the creditors of Madame Hanau a bank has been founded in Belgium, whereby Madame Hanau hopes to recoup her losses and repay her French creditors.

This bank has been established under the auspices of three firms, the managing director of one of which being one of Madame Hanau's backers in the "Gazette du Franc."

EARTHQUAKES IN LOUISIANA.**NO CASUALTIES AND NO DAMAGE.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 19.

Earthquake shocks were felt here and in a number of towns in southeastern Louisiana.

No casualties or damage has been reported.

The epicentre is believed to have been in the Gulf of Mexico.

MILITARY DISPLAY AT ALDERSHOT.**WITNESSED BY IMPERIAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES.**

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, Oct. 19.

Most of the delegates to the Imperial Conference yesterday witnessed a special Army display arranged for them near Aldershot.

Many branches of the Service took part, and particular interest was shown in the latest types of tanks and mechanised transport.

Tactical operations took place designed to show the use of these and other arms in battle.

PEACE AND ORDER IN CHIHLI.**CHANG SENDS TROOPS WITHIN GREAT WALL.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NANKING, Oct. 20.

It is officially announced that Chang Hsueh Liang has wired to Chiang Kai Shek that he is sending additional Manchurian troops within the Great Wall, so as to assist in the maintenance of peace and order in Chihli.

MORE TROUBLE AT AMOY.**MERCHANTS OPPOSE NEW TAX.**

Chinese merchants in the Colony have received cables from Amoy advising them not to send metals there for the time being.

To raise funds for the upkeep of Government schools at Amoy, the Educational Bureau has decided to impose an additional tax on metals. The metal merchants held a meeting last week to discuss the matter when they unanimously decided to oppose the new measure. They appealed to the authorities to withdraw the tax and have wired merchants in Hong Kong, Shanghai and elsewhere advising them not to send goods there until the trouble is over.

As regards the proposed import duties about which there was trouble two or three weeks ago, the authorities have decided to postpone their enforcement and the shipment of goods has been resumed.

BIG FIRE IN WUCHOW.**HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY.**

A destructive fire occurred at Wuchow on the 17th inst. when scores of buildings and vessels were gutted and several people lost their lives.

The fire originated in the Kam Ling Restaurant shortly after 3.30 p.m. The flames spread with great rapidity and neighbouring buildings were soon involved. The "brothel boats" also caught fire.

A great panic ensued, especially among the prostitutes on board the boats. Some of them had to jump into the water and several were drowned. Squads of police and troops were soon on the scene and the flames were extinguished at about 5.30 p.m.

Scores of buildings in addition to numerous boats were destroyed. The loss to property is estimated at over \$300,000.

The exact number of casualties is unknown as yet, but it is believed that at least ten people have been either burnt to death or drowned.

CANTON AIR VENTURE.**FLIGHT TO STRAITS AND JAVA.**

According to a Canton report, Mr. Wong Kong Yui, the Director of the Canton Aviation Bureau, is making arrangements for a long-distance flight to the Straits Settlements and the Dutch Indies with a view to arousing the interest of overseas Chinese towards aviation in China. An aeroplane is being built in Canton for this purpose.

In naval circles the suggestion that the Prince of Wales should undertake a cruise to South America next year as Vice-Admiral Commanding a Special Service Squadron is regarded with favour. Such a visit could not fail to be of the utmost advantage to British trade and prestige generally. It is many years since a member of the Royal Family commanded a fleet at sea. During the eighties of last century the late Duke of Edinburgh, uncle of King George V., was Vice-Admiral Commanding the Channel Squadron for 12 months and the Mediterranean Fleet for three years. The King, though at various dates commanding Torpedo Boat No. 70, the gunboat Thrush and the cruisers Melampus and Orestes, never flew his flag as commander of a squadron.

SOVIET RELEASE BRITISH YOUTH.**UNDER DETENTION FOR THREE WEEKS.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SHANGHAI, Oct. 19.

A message from Peiping states that Mr. Christopher Jowett, the eighteen-year-old nephew of the Rt. Hon. F. W. Jowett, who has been in the hands of the Soviet police for three weeks, wired from Chita stating that he was leaving on October 18, and expected to enter Chinese territory on Sunday. Up to the present, there is no news of his having done so.

Safe Arrival at Harbin.

PEIPING, Oct. 20.

Mr. Christopher Jowett crossed the frontier yesterday and reached Harbin safely this morning.

BRITISH SCHNEIDER CUP FLIER KILLED.**MOTORING ACCIDENT ON THE BATH ROAD.**

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, Oct. 19.

Flight-Lieutenant O. E. Worsley, a member of the victorious British Schneider Trophy team in 1927, died yesterday after a motoring accident on the Bath Road.

Flight-Lieut. Worsley occupied second place in the 1927 Schneider Cup Race, his average speed being 272.8 miles an hour. He had been in aviation for thirteen years.

PROF. EINSTEIN IN LONDON.**DINNER BY LORD ROTHSCHILD.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, Oct. 19.

Professor Einstein, the author of the famous theory of relativity, is to be entertained in London, on October 20, at a dinner over which Lord Rothschild will preside.

Many distinguished men will be present, and Mr. G. B. Shaw's speech proposing Prof. Einstein's health, and the latter's reply, will be broadcast.

SNOWFALL IN NEW YORK STATE.**THOUSANDS OF MOTOR CARS SNOWBOUND.**

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.

After a long spell of mild weather, the temperature dropped very suddenly during the week-end to 40 degrees.

Eighteen inches of snow fell in some parts of New York State and some thousands of cars are snow-bound.

PEDESTRIANISM.**NEW THOUSAND METRES RECORD.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PARIS, Oct. 19.

The well-known French athlete, Labrousque, broke the world's record for the 1,000 metres at the Jean Bouin Stadium to-day.

His time was 2 minutes 23.3/10th seconds.

The previous record, held by the German, Dr. Peltzer, was 2 min. 25.4/10th seconds.

DISTURBANCES IN BOMBAY VILLAGES.**HEADMEN TIED TO TREES AND FLOGGED.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BOMBAY, Oct. 19.

It is reported from Kalwa village, in the Nasik district of Bombay, that a mob of 4,000 armed with bows and arrows, spears, etc., terrorised the villagers against paying forest fees.

The headmen of the villages were tied to trees and flogged. Two policemen are missing, and it is believed that they have been murdered.

Armed police have been dispatched to the scene.

YOUNGER NEHRU DELIVERS SEDITIOUS SPEECH.**RE-ARRESTED AT ALLHABAD.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ALLAHABAD, Oct. 19.

Jawahar Lal Nehru, the President of the All-India Congress, who was only recently released from gaol, was re-arrested to-day as he was leaving a meeting owing to a seditious speech he made during the morning.

It will be recalled that Nehru, immediately on his release from prison, made an indiscreet statement, declaring that the Congress was greater than Gandhi and would fight to the bitter end to achieve the independence of India.

The re-arrest of Jawahar Lal Nehru is understood to be due to a recent speech, advocating the non-payment of taxes.

Bombay, Oct. 19. Osman Sobhani, the new President of the Bombay War Council, has been sentenced to nine months' hard labour.

His successor, another Moslem, named Hajinoot Mahomed Ahmed, has also been arrested.

MURDER IN KOWLOON CITY.**YOUNG WOMAN STRANGLED.**

Another case of cold-blooded murder which took place on Saturday night is engaging the attention of the Criminal Investigation Department. This time the victim is a young Chinese woman living in Kowloon City who was found dead after having been strangled with a cord.

The Police received a call late on Saturday night and when they got to 34A, Shapo Village, they found the door of the cubicle in which the deceased and a man, supposed to have been her husband, had been living, locked. Forcing this open, they saw the lifeless body of the woman on her bed. There was a cord around her throat and the body was still warm. Death appeared to have occurred a short time before the discovery of the body.

Other inmates on the floor stated they found the door of the cubicle locked when they got back from the theatre. On receiving no answer to their repeated knocks, they became alarmed and got into touch with the police. They further informed the Police that the woman had been living there for four months.

She was frequently visited by a man who she said was her husband. She gave her name as Lai Ngan Ngai and her age as 27.

The authorities are trying to locate the man. Meanwhile investigations are being carried out.

BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA IN TEN DAYS.**CAPT. KINGSFORD-SMITH SHATTERS RECORD.**

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

PORT DARWIN, Oct. 19.

Captain Kingsford-Smith's time was 10 days, two hours, 10 minutes, thus Hinkler's record, which has stood for nearly three years, has been shattered.

"Flying On Water."

Smith from the cockpit of his plane, returned the greetings of the Government and civic authorities, climbed out, and asked for a cigarette. He declined the offer of a whisky soda, as he "preferred flying on water."

The greetings were brief, and Smith then drove off to the town for a wash and dinner, and returned to overhaul his machine, as he is leaving for Sydney at six to-morrow morning.

He said that he had encountered a strong wind at the last lap and had to allow for a variation of five degrees. He declared that the whole flight was the best he had ever done, for he averaged 110 miles an hour.

Tribute to Hill.

LATER.

A striking tribute was paid to the unlucky Hill by Kingsford-Smith, who said he was genuinely grieved that Hill had crashed. He said that Hill had achieved something wonderful, and had to do night flying, and battle against storms and other odds, which he fortunately missed.

Captain Smith explained that as he was approaching Atamboea he saw Hill's machine smashed, but Hill greeted him smilingly and asked him whether he had a collapsible boat. "No," replied Smith. "Well, take mine," rejoined Hill. "I shan't need it now."

Smith accepted the offer, but had to turn away to hide his emotion.

LATER.

Kingsford-Smith left for Sydney at 6.30 a.m., and Capt. Matthews at 7 a.m.

A crowd saw off Capt. Kingsford-Smith and Capt. Matthews to Sydney.

Both were well and happy. Capt. Kingsford-Smith said that he was eager to meet his sweetheart in Sydney. He did not care if Bert Hinkler again broke the record. He would rest on his laurels.

Rough Journey Across Alps.

BRISBANE, Oct. 19.

Kingsford-Smith, in an interview, said that he smoked all day at one stage of the journey because his nerves were so frayed. He knew it was an unpardonable sin, but he took great care. The worst stage of the journey was across the Alps. He would have been thrown out but for the strap he was wearing. Now he intended to get married and hoped that the wedding would take place within three weeks, after which he would pilot Melbourne to Brisbane air liners.

Message from King George.

LONDON, Oct. 19.

A telegram has been despatched from Sandringham requesting the Acting Governor of Australia to congratulate Capt. Kingsford-Smith on behalf of His Majesty.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Lord Amulree cabled their congratulations.

Tribute to Skill and Endurance.

The newspapers unite in paying a tribute to Capt. Kingsford-Smith for his skill and endurance, and especially his chivalry in returning to assist Hill, whose ill-luck is regretted.

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, Oct. 19.

Wing-Commander Kingsford-Smith landed in Port Darwin to-day, completing on the eleventh day of his flight his 10,400 miles' journey from Britain to Australia. He has thus beaten the very large margin Bert Hinkler's record of fifteen and a half days, which has withstood many attacks upon it.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

TAXATION RECEIPTS OF AMERICA.**CONSIDERABLE DECREASE DECLARED.**

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.

It is officially announced that the taxation receipts for the first three months of the fiscal year have decreased by \$68,472,000 compared with the same period last year.

The chief drop is in income-tax.

ENGLISHWOMAN'S FLIGHT TO JAPAN.**UNIQUE EXPERIENCES IN THE DESERT.**

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, Oct. 19.

Details have just reached England of the experiences of Mrs. Victor Bruce, the Englishwoman who recently set out in a single-seater machine on a flight to Japan, which broke down in Persia.

The story reads more like a page from the desert romances of some of our highly imaginative lady authors.

Mrs. Bruce made excellent progress on her long flight until after leaving Bushira.

She encountered a violent sand-storm and attempted to land on what seemed to be hard sand, but the plane sank into it and overturned.

Baluchi tribesmen appeared on the scene and seemed hostile, but she made friends with them by interesting them in an alarm clock and by dancing and singing to them.

After some nights in the desert, living on water and dates given her by the tribesmen, she persuaded the chief to send a message to Jask, 40 miles distant, and three Englishmen came to her help.

They mended the aeroplane and Mrs. Bruce flew it to Jask with one of them, Mr. Wilson, an Imperial Airways engineer, lying along the fuselage.

Before the altar in a Cuckfield (Sussex) church stood the happy couple—the groom, a policeman, tall and handsome; the bride, petite and pretty. The ceremony was nearing its end. On the Bible lay the ring, and the minister was about to hand it to the bridegroom when it slipped off the book and disappeared. Search was made, members of the bridal party crouching down and groping about, but it was useless. The little golden band had vanished. Then, when the situation was beginning to look serious, the minister showed his resourcefulness. He had two rings on his hand and tugged at one, but it would not move. He pulled at the other, and after a struggle off it came, and with this ring the ceremony was completed. Another search was made for the lost trinket, this time successfully. It was in one of the "turn-ups" of the minister's trousers.

Kingsford-Smith left Croydon Aerodrome at 5.30 a.m. on October 9, and, by Greenwich mean time reckoning, his flight may just claim to have been completed within 10 days. He left Timor Island early this morning and landed in Port Darwin at two o'clock this afternoon, local time. He received an overwhelming reception.

His small single-seater Avro Avian machine with a 120 horse-power Gipsy engine, is the latest model of the same type used by Hinkler on his Australian flight. It has given him not a moment of anxiety on his long journey. Kingsford-Smith has made possibly the most remarkable long-distance flight in the history of aviation. When he left Britain he was suffering from the effects of an operation and was advised by his doctors not to fly. In disregard of their injunction, he added another record to the many achievements to his credit, which include a flight round the Australian coast, across the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans, and a flight around the world. It is understood that he will proceed to Sydney from Port Darwin via Broken Hill.

GOVERNOR CRITICIZES LUXURIOUS TENDENCIES.

DELAYED ROAD DEVELOPMENT.

HIGH OFFICIALS ESCAPE ASSESSMENT TAX.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

This Vote has already dwindled, for it was reduced by \$5,000 last year, when the Chinese Unofficial Members drew attention to the reduction and expressed the hope that no further cut would be made in future Estimates. Necessary as economy is in these times, we consider that the limit has been reached in this direction, and that further reductions would prejudicially affect many elementary vernacular schools which afford education to thousands of children of the poorer classes.

The Water Famine.

Though the Honourable Senior Unofficial Member has urged upon the Government the necessity of pressing on with all possible speed the waterworks under construction, I make no apologies for offering some observations on the subject, which affects the Chinese more than other members of the community. There is no need for me to recount here the great hardships which the poorer classes of the Chinese had to undergo during the water famine last year, but I should like to refer to a peculiar incident of about two months ago in connection with the water supply on the Island.

A Pokfulam Grievance.

One morning the inhabitants of the Western section of the Pokfulam district suddenly found themselves deprived of the regular supply of water to their houses, and put on the street fountain, the reason given by the Government being that the storage of the Pokfulam reservoir, which was the principal source of supply to that section, was getting dangerously low.

The people affected could not understand how, when rain had apparently been plentiful, the reservoir could have behaved in that way. To our knowledge, the Pokfulam reservoir has the vagary of rapidly emptying and filling itself in some mysterious way. As a matter of fact, the full supply was restored only a few days after the restriction had been put on, as a good downpour of rain had providentially come to the rescue of the people. We sincerely hope that every step will be taken by the Government to render the people who now receive their supply of water from this reservoir less dependent on it in future. The Aberdeen reservoir will very appreciably help in this direction, and we trust that nothing will be allowed to delay its construction.

Eloquent Tribute to His Excellency.

My Chinese colleagues and I respectfully associate ourselves with the Honourable Senior Unofficial Member in assuring Your Excellency of our whole-hearted support and co-operation in your arduous task of administration in these times of extraordinary difficulties. Your Excellency has the reputation of an administrator who, in addition to his native ability, is blessed with a lucky star. When Your Excellency was guiding the destinies of the people of the Federated Malay States, you brought to them unprecedented prosperity which, curiously, began to dwindle on your departure. The Chinese believe in such a mystical attribute—the good luck of a ruler; and in your case their belief has been markedly confirmed by the overflow of our reservoirs which, only a few months ago, were large muddy tanks. May you, Sir, give us other blessings including the blessing of being a lightly-taxed community.

HON. MR. J. P. BRAGA.

The Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga said:—

Your Excellency.—The comments I am about to address to the Council on the Budget and the Honourable the Colonial Secretary's speech thereon, represent partly the expression of my own views and partly those of residents whom I have consulted. They are of an intelligent interest in civic affairs, and to whose opinions I attach much weight.

In all circles and among all sections of the community that part of the Colonial Secretary's speech which has aroused most discussion is the one relating to fresh taxation. It is because in one form or another all pockets—with notable exceptions—are going to be touched.

The New Taxes.

Regarding the proposed new taxation, it has been ascertained that the part of the Government that it is desired to ensure that the incidence of the new taxes will be equitable. The Colonial Secretary's hope applies with special reference to the augmentation of

the general assessment rate by four per cent. The Honourable speaker, however, for the Government regards this as "the fairest in its incidence of all forms of direct taxation."

I trust I shall not be misinterpreted in my criticism of the assertion when I question the fairness of the incidence of this taxation. The question of its fairness is arguable. It is not difficult to establish that, in the circumstances obtaining in the Colony at present, this form of direct taxation does not operate fairly at all.

Rent Free and Tax Free.

I am not prompted by meanness or ungenerosity to a fairly large body of residents composing the administrative body of this Colony when I venture the statement that the conclusion is irresistible that the highest-placed members of the Civil Service of Hong Kong escape taxation entirely when it is a question of an additional assessment rate being levied. I fail to see how the fairness claim can be defended when a \$40 clerk has to pay his per cent. on the rental of his poor flat and the humblest among the population, whose daily wage is cents, has to contribute his quota of the same percentage on the value of the cubicle he occupies overnight. I am not attempting to dispute the wisdom or the expediency of comfortably housing the civil servants of the Colony. That policy is sound and commendable. No great effort, however, is required to demonstrate how those employees of Government who occupy the "rent-free" houses will go "tax-free" when additional revenue is proposed to be raised out of house-rent.

Big Men's Complacency.

Similarly, it can be shown that those members of the community who represent the city magnates of this Colony, and who occupy palatial residences free of rent, also escape the proposed form of contribution towards the Colony's increased expenditure when more revenue is sought out of the House Tax.

It is, therefore, seen that those best able to pay are just those who can look on complacently while their less-favoured brethren have to contribute their quota for the larger administrative expenditure for which the Bill now before the Council confers legislative authority.

It should not be beyond the ingenuity of Government to ascertain the assessed value of the premises occupied by those enjoying the privilege of rent-free houses. If this privileged class could be made to contribute the 4 per cent. additional rate—then, and only then, could the claim for equity for this form of taxation be substantiated.

Cost of Passages.

We are well aware that a Retrenchment Commission is assiduously pursuing its investigations into the increasing cost of operating the Colony's administrative machinery. This fact does not preclude attention being drawn to the very high cost of transporting Government servants to and from the Colony. The fact is beyond dispute that this very subject has been exercising the directorate of certain public companies in Hong Kong with the object of instituting drastic economy, and so that what was once conceded as a privilege in the heyday of the Colony's prosperity may not be perpetuated into an extension of that privilege to the point of economic unsoundness.

The cost of transport of Government servants will increase from \$250,000 in 1930 to \$350,000 next year. This large increase calls for comment. I anticipate the Government's reply that the greater the growth of the Colony, the larger must be the numerical strength of its personnel, hence the higher transportation cost. This, being the case, Government should not be above accepting *mutatis mutandis* the hint contained in one of the recommendations of the recent Salaries Commission which reported on the question of the salaries to the Shanghai Municipal Council. Regarding local applicants for Municipal Service the Commission recorded that:—

"In view of the high cost of obtaining and maintaining foreign employees in the Council's service, including passages, long leave, and other benefits, the Commission is of the opinion that local residents, foreigners domiciled in China, and Chinese of Chinese descent, who possess the necessary qualifications and experience for the position, should be employed, thus reducing the heavy costs of appointments from abroad."

Shanghai's Good Example.

I deem it pardonable for giving prominence to this recommendation of the Shanghai Salaries Commission, because there is so much excellent material obtainable in the Colony whose employment would mean a large saving in the cost of transport services alone. The Colony has founded and is maintaining a University of its own at some sacrifice. Why not find greater use for the products of our own seat of learning among the technical men whom the University is turning out in greater numbers each year? If the rumour is well founded that our graduates have to seek lucrative employment outside the Colony, then the truth of the saying is painfully forced upon one that a prophet is not without honour save in his own country. There has been too great a tendency for the "sons of the soil" to be passed over in Hong Kong. This tendency ought to be checked, and a new policy inaugurated whereby qualified local men be afforded facilities for advancement in the Colonial Service.

Discouraging Discrimination.

We have a shining and outstanding example from amongst the Unofficial Members of this Council of the benefits and advantage accruing to the public service in its recruiting of local talent. I refrain from mentioning any name, for fear lest I bring a blush on the cheeks of my honourable friend. In point of recognized ability, linguistic attainment, and untiring energy there should have been no limit to his promotion; but the discouraging and discriminatory service regulations stood in the way. I may say that these regulations do not excite any great enthusiasm in local enlistment for Government service.

For a long period of years a position of trust and responsibility was held by another local officer who retired with a unique record of 55 years' service with the Government. His successor was another Hong Kong man who has honourably earned his retirement on pension, after not many years short of 40 years in public employment. His place has been filled by a Cadet Officer drawn from amongst the local population, the computation of which affords evidence opposed to the clamour for retrenchment and still more economy.

School Furniture.

I suppose there must be ready acceptance of the recommendation of the Board of Education "to raise slightly the fees for some of the higher classes in the public schools." While acquiescing in this recommendation, it may not be amiss to enquire if the Medical Officer for Schools is quite satisfied that the furniture in some of the Government schools is all that is desired. For instance, enquiry may be instituted to ascertain whether the desks and benches are of the standard type, and so designed as to be free from danger of injury to the health of the little children attending certain Government schools.

Kowloon-Canton Commuters.

On certain items of special expenditure under the Canton-Kowloon Railway vote, comments have been brought to my notice representing the considered opinions of a number of residents living out in the New Territories. As they form fair criticism, no apology is needed for submitting them for consideration. In the first place, the Railway Administration is congratulated on its foresight in the provision of \$1,840 for the approach road to Fanning Station. It is very desirable that this road be placed in proper order.

In the absence of any explanatory note, the item of \$8,250 for a new air compressor and motor is queried. It is held that if the apparatus is for paint-spraying purposes the proposal should not be concurred in.

Fanning Golfers.

Criticism is rather more ungenerous when it comes to sub-head 41—"Sheung Shui Station, Extensions, \$43,100." I am not so great a user of the railway as to be in the position of being a fair critic, but if the presumption is true that the station is to be extended at a cost of \$43,100 for the benefit of a few golfers only, then the proposed expenditure requires more careful scrutiny.

Sub-head 45 is the re-appearance or \$40,000 for "new body-work for four coaches." There are technical men who advocate that, before incurring this expenditure, enquiries might be made of firms in the Colony capable of building railway coaches, of which there are several. In this connection there are those who hold that the present third-class coaches are of an entirely unsuitable type for the traffic on this line.

Unfair Competition in Industry.

The advantage of assisting local industries is obvious. While on this subject, I trust Your Excellency will kindly direct the deliberations of the Empire Conference be closely watched in order that full benefit be taken of its recommendations, with special reference to Empire trade preference. Our local industries need all the assistance they can obtain for their maintenance and development. It has been regretfully observed that

a few are struggling with the intense competition of heavily-subsidized products. It is an elementary obligation imposed upon the Colony to ensure that its industrial rivals enter this field upon a footing of equality, and not upon terms so disadvantageous to local enterprises as to defeat all possibility of successful competition. The Colonial Secretary in his speech hinted that "the share market indicates that commercial undertakings are expected to prosper." It is sincerely to be hoped that there may be early fulfilment of this prophecy, to effect which Government can do its part by securing for our industrial undertakings a measure of freedom from unfair competition against which we have so strenuously to fight.

Subsidies for Private Enterprise.

In another direction also could Government assistance be most helpful. There is the Imperial Colonial Development Fund. Could not Hong Kong petition for the allocation of its quota which might be utilised, among other purposes, towards promoting, fostering, and developing private enterprise rebounding to the benefit of Hong Kong. The present appears to be the ideal moment for an appeal to be made to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies when a comparatively small round sum in sterling would represent a large amount when converted into Hong Kong dollars.

Anti-Malaria Work.

While on the subject of industries, I would not like to miss this opportunity of offering congratulations to the Department of Government concerned on the business-like expedition displayed in pushing ahead with the large private contribution of the Tsun Wan Forestry. From an industrial point of view, with the advent of electrical power, I envision the genesis of a flourishing and important township in the Tsun Wan district of the New Territories with the completion of this important reclamation. Like the Shan Tseng Bay district, Tsun Wan is a place where the reputation of being very malarious, the workmen employed there being subject to this ailment in a malignant form. I can appreciate how research work has first to be undertaken before remedial measures can be undertaken on a large scale. However, in his counted desire to assist private enterprise, I trust the Honourable the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services will endeavour to take early and effective steps to rid Tsun Wan and Shan Tseng Bay of malaria, the extensive existence of which cannot but seriously retard the rapid development of districts that are so full of promise of becoming important industrial centres in the New Territories in the near future.

Beautifying Kowloon Tong.

I have carefully searched the Draft Estimates for a sum of \$4,000 which had been promised for forestry work in certain areas in Kowloon, principally for ornamental trees in the parks and open spaces of Kowloon Tong. To my regret, I cannot discover any such item of proposed expenditure. This small sum of money would be very well spent and help to improve that part of New Kowloon as the "Garden City" on the Mainland.

Open-Air Band Concerts.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the series of open-air regimental band concerts which has just concluded were a source of infinite enjoyment to some hundreds of Kowloon residents during the few hot summer evenings when they were provided with excellent and thoroughly enjoyable music supplied by the military bands on the grounds of the Kowloon Football Club. The Finance Committee of this Council voted a sum of \$1,200 for band concerts during 1930. It is not such a large sum as it might not appear as a recurring item each year under Miscellaneous Services. I hope my suggestions will receive Your Excellency's favourable consideration.

Delayed Road Development.

My hope of an "initial vote" for the preliminary construction of the first section of the Circular Road in the New Territories as far as Ma Yue Tong has been doomed to disappointment. I looked in vain for the inclusion of the item that first appeared in the Estimates for the current year. I am conscious of the fact that the advisability of the construction of this road is debatable. Amongst the opponents of the project were ranged my Unofficial colleagues of this Council. I draw attention to this subject not so much because I entertain any hope of success in these hard times, but that a scheme which, to my mind, will in the end prove remunerative will not be lost sight of entirely. I cannot appreciate the diffidence in embarking upon this project when it is known to the Government that there are a few prospective applicants for building sites as soon as a working-plan of the new road should be available to them, and likely residential plots shown on such plan.

An Original Suggestion.

Having aside all contentious matter I turn to a suggestion which, if possessing no other merit, at any rate can claim that of originality. I hope I shall not be found guilty of temerity for bringing forward a

proposal that involves some expenditure. The total outlay is not going to be very large; it will recoup itself in a few years and, besides, add to the amenities of Kowloon, which is fast growing into a large and beautiful city.

Marine Aquarium.

It was just a month ago that the biology buildings attached to the University were publicly opened by Your Excellency. It is only in the fitness of things that the thought suggests itself that a public marine aquarium be established in the not distant future.

I hope I may be justified in the submission that this is an opportune moment for bringing forward the suggestion. Apart from the economic and scientific aspects of such an institution, the popular interest which such a project will arouse is certain to be great. A suitable site for the aquarium should be in the area reserved for a public park near the Police Training School among the recommendations of the Planning Committee. There are public aquaria in Manila, Batavia, Japan, and Honolulu. Your Excellency is probably better acquainted than any one of us with the public aquarium in Singapore.

A Paying Proposition.

I am given to understand that there need be no doubt as to the ultimate financial success of a well-established aquarium in a large centre of population, such as I have suggested in Kowloon. The aquaria, most interesting exhibits. There was in June of this year 901 exhibits, which attract a great deal of attention. It cost \$5,000 to build and less than \$2,000 for the maintenance in 1929. There were 20,000 visitors last year, and a small entrance fee is charged, elementary pupils being admitted free. It should not be difficult to plan an aquarium for Kowloon on the same scale as the one at Singapore. In this connection a short extract from the general report of Mr. David G. Stead, Fisheries Enquiry Commissioner, upon the fisheries of British Malaya is well worth consideration.

An Aid to Good Government.

"I would even go so far as to suggest," Mr. Stead wrote, "that in a country of such mixed nationalities, where human interests are so diverse, a large, well-established public aquarium would be really of national benefit as well as of great assistance in municipal organisation aid order." Mr. Stead moralises that "it has come to be recognised in most parts of the world, at the present time, that it is far more easy to control a people who are able to satisfy, by proper means, their natural desire for recreation and amusement." He regards a public aquarium as "an essential institution" and argues that "even if it did not 'pay' from the strictly financial point of view it would still be a very 'cheap' means of granting to the public very valuable educational facilities." I share the view that there need be no fear that an aquarium at Kowloon will not pay, always provided that it is properly designed, constructed, and "run."

Your Excellency, I apologise for the inordinate length of my speech. I justify it on the ground that this is the one occasion in the year when Unofficial Members of Your Excellency's Council have the opportunity of placing their views very fully before Your Excellency on matters concerning the administration, finance, and municipal needs of the Colony. Better far than criticisms be advanced openly in the honest conviction of their soundness than that there be tacit acquiescence in proposals with which one does not inwardly agree.

HON. DR. S. W. TSO.

The Hon. Dr. S. W. Tso said:—

Sir,—I rise to express my general agreement with the speeches made by the senior Unofficial Member, Hon. Sir Shou-sun Chow, and by my Chinese colleague, Hon. Dr. Kotewall. The unprecedented fall in the exchange rate of the dollar and the general increase in salaries necessitate the increase of taxation in order to meet the commitments of the Government. While the whole community would loyally support the Government by paying these increases, yet there is a feeling of uneasiness in the mind of the people in that the extra burden which they are called upon to bear is not for any special work for the advancement of the Colony but merely to counterbalance the low value of the dollar and to pay increased emoluments. Moreover, drastic cuts have to be made into the expenditure of essential works of the Colony. How long the present exchange value of the dollar will remain and how much lower it may still further drop no one can tell. To suffer the finances of the Colony to fluctuate with the caprice of exchange, I submit, is uneconomical. I urge, therefore, that the Government will leave no stone unturned to find out the possibility or feasibility of stabilizing the currency of the Colony at an early date.

It is unfortunate that the assessment tax has to be increased in order to raise revenue to meet the Government's commitments. It is fortunate because this form of taxation falls heavily upon the shoulders of the poorer class of the Chinese. During the Great War the assessment tax was increased, sideration.

by 7 per cent., but it was understood that the imposition was to be temporary, namely, during the period of the war. But Hong Kong was less affected by the war and trade depression was not then so much felt in the Colony as it is to-day, due, no doubt, to the fall of the value of the dollar and the interconcine strife in China. I trust, therefore, that the Government will see its way to declare that the imposition of this tax is but temporary and it will be removed when the value of the dollar goes up or when the financial position of the Colony is improved.

School Grants.

Under Head 28, Education Department, in the Budget, I find that the item under Capitation Grant is reduced from that of last year by \$3,420, and as pointed out by the Hon. Dr. Kotewall the item "Subsidies to Elementary Vernacular Schools in Hong Kong" by \$15,000. These grants and subsidies are a means of helping the carrying on of schools under private enterprise. The more these schools are established in the Colony, the lighter will be the responsibility of the Government for providing Government schools for the education of the people. From an economic point of view the cutting down of these grants and subsidies, I submit, is not a good policy; particularly as the Government is paying, I understand, about 75 per cent. of the cost of maintaining the schools besides the heavy cost of erecting school buildings.

In view of the rapid development in the Kowloon City area the need of an Anglo-Chinese school there is very real. Although there is one in existence by private enterprise, it may have to close its doors soon for want of Government support. I would therefore urge that the Government will take the matter up seriously either to give support to this existing school or to provide a Government school for the inhabitants of Kowloon City.

I do not intend to criticise here the educational system of the Colony but I do wish to express the gratitude of the poor to the Government for taking an interest in the establishment of trade schools by appointing a committee to enquire into the feasibility or possibility of establishing such schools where the poor can learn trade to enable them to make a living.

With these few remarks I wish to join with my Honourable Unofficial colleagues in pledging to your Excellency my loyal support and co-operation.

HON. MR. PAUL LAUDER.

The Hon. Mr. P. Lauder said:—Sir,—I have studied the Budget for the year 1931, also the speech by the Honourable Colonial Secretary on this subject with much interest. The first thought which will occur to anyone in studying the estimates is the heavily increased cost of administering the Government. A considerable increase, however, under present conditions is inevitable in that the Colony has important gold commitments which have to be paid for in silver. The price of silver having fallen to an unprecedented low figure with the consequent decline in the sterling value of the dollar, the cost of these gold commitments turned into dollars must of necessity show a considerable increase. Under all these circumstances it becomes necessary for the Government to raise additional revenue, and I have no criticism to offer of the suggested increased taxation which it is proposed to introduce except that I would mention that it seems to me the increase in the general assessment rate by 4 per cent. is a fair and reasonable method to adopt and as the Honourable Colonial Secretary has said, this tax is an economical one to collect. I am pleased that the Government have taken serious notice of the increased cost of administration and that they have in consequence brought into being a Retrenchment Committee which is at present carrying on its most difficult task. It is to be hoped that it will be able to show some means whereby the heavy burden of expenditure can be lightened as there is no doubt there is great and pressing need for economy.

Sterling-Paid Civil Servants.

The fall in the price of silver and the consequent decline in the sterling value of the dollar to its present low level was quite unexpected and in this connection I would say that there must inevitably be certain conditions in such matters which it is not possible to foresee or allow for. It occurs to me that the increased number of dollars at present received by the sterling paid officers of the Government may more than compensate them for the increased cost of living due to the decline in exchange. If the Government are also of this opinion, I suggest that they might consider fixing some minimum rate of exchange for the payment of their sterling paid officers' salaries. If half these salaries were paid at a fixed rate of 1/6 when exchange falls below this figure and half at the current rate this might constitute a fair basis of payment and in view of the present conditions I suggest that they might consider fixing some minimum rate of exchange for the payment of their sterling paid officers' salaries. If half these salaries were paid at a fixed rate of 1/6 when exchange falls below this figure and half at the current rate this might constitute a fair basis of payment and in view of the present conditions I suggest that they might consider fixing some minimum rate of exchange for the payment of their sterling paid officers' salaries. If half these salaries were paid at a fixed rate of 1/6 when exchange falls below this figure and half at the current rate this might constitute a fair basis of payment and in view of the present conditions I suggest that they might consider fixing some minimum rate of exchange for the payment of their sterling paid officers' salaries.

HON. MR. J. J. PATERSON.

Hon. Mr. Paterson: I think Mr. Macdonald has very concisely dealt with shipping and I have really nothing to add except to say that I agree entirely with it. Shipping, and especially coastal shipping, is going through a very serious time and a great deal of money has been lost recently. We continue to lose money and I am very nervous for the future of shipping. I hope, therefore, that if any reduction is possible it will be made. It can be said, of course, that the present taxation does not amount to any great figure. They are merely straws, but we must remember that it is a straw that broke the camel's back.

THE CASE FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S REPLY.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary said:—

It must be very gratifying to Your Excellency to recognise the appreciative nature of the Unofficial comments on the difficulties of this, Your Excellency's first Budget on Hong Kong, and to find that their criticisms, while clearly evidencing the closest examination of detail, all reveal a genuine and helpful desire to co-operate in making the best of things as they are.

Your Excellency will yourself be dealing with the more important questions that have been raised, but there are a number of criticisms in detail which can be answered simply and of which it is desirable first to dispose. The absence of the explanatory notes in the Revenue Estimates is regretted. They had all appeared in the original Treasury draft, but for the most part they are self-evident, and are merely short references to the Treasury Memorandum on Revenue with its fuller explanations and that is already in Honourable Members' hands. That memo, in itself something of a new departure, considered to be more helpful than the missing notes. They read in this way:—

Class I.

HEAD I.

Light Dues.—Increases in scale. HEAD II. Amusement Tax.—New Tax. Assessment Taxes.—4 per cent. increase in rates. Carriage, Chair, etc., Licences.—Transferred to Vehicle Licences. Forfeitures.—Based on latest returns. Over-estimated for 1930. Motor Spirit Duties.—New Tax. Stamp Duties.—Increased taxation. Including increased Estimates Duties.—Do.

but the note to the last item will form the reply to one of the queries that has been raised. Other Miscellaneous Receipts, which show a reduction of \$150,000, carry the note "over-estimated in 1930, and less profit on exchange." The omission will be duly rectified next year. Attention has very properly been drawn by the senior Unofficial Member to the absence of the usual detailed Abstract of Differences between the Estimates of the current and of the coming year, and I can only apologise for the omission. The paper is one of those which the instructions require should be sent to the Secretary of State with the Estimates, and it is now in hand, but there is no good reason why it should not have been completed earlier and circulated with the draft Estimates. May I be allowed to express the hope that its absence did not unduly hamper Hon. Members in the work of examination which they have so conscientiously carried out?

For index, it is possible that attention has not been drawn to the Fly Leaf of the Estimates, to page 5 and to page 12. These pages from a complete index to the whole volume, and if Hon. Members will make use of it, I venture to think that they will find it sufficient for all purposes.

Use of Motor Vans.

A question was asked concerning the item of Revenue "Use of Motor Vans \$17,500." A new method of conveying pork carcasses from Slaughter House to Stall has been introduced recently and special Sanitary Department vans will now do the work under Departmental control. A charge of 6 cents a carcass is made, and the estimated revenue is the sum given. The figure of 6 cents has been fixed with a view to reimbursing the Government for running costs on this account, but it remains to be seen whether any alteration will be called for.

Harbour Office.

The member for the Chamber of Commerce has drawn attention to a number of increases under the Other Charges of the Harbour Office for which the main reason is to be found in the difference in exchange. He will remember that the estimate for 1931 is based on a 1/4 dollar as against 1/10 for the current year. The contrary price of coal in the Colony further tends to show an increase in the extra cost will provide for no luxuries as he suggests in the way of extra running.

(Continued on Page 11.)

GOVERNOR CRITICIZES LUXURIOUS TENDENCIES.

MILITARY CONTRIBUTION: NO HOPE OF REDUCTION.

BILL PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

Post Office Message Fees.
The message fees are divided as follows:—
Wireless messages \$328,700
Semaphoric messages 10
Advices of incoming ships 1,200
\$330,000

(Explanation can be shortly given if necessary.)

"Royalties on Wireless Telegraphy" was the heading under which Licence fees for Ship Stations were previously entered. All Wireless Licences are now given in the one entry on page 7 Wireless Licences \$11,240.

Kowloon-Canton Railway.
The Operating Expenses are now considerably greater than they were, owing to:—

- 1.—Revision of Salaries and Wages.
- 2.—Special revision of Engineers' wages and allowances.
- 3.—Rise in contract price of coal and oil and petrol.
- 4.—Higher cost of materials and stores owing to low exchange.

In 1931, when we hope to be able to bring the three new express engines into service on the Canton run, we shall be further burdened by depreciation on these engines amounting to a minimum of \$18,000 per annum.

Thus in 1931 Operating Expenses are likely to be more than 15 per cent. over the figures for 1930. In order to cover this additional outlay, it is under consideration to raise the Local and Joint Sectional Fares (of which the last revision was in May, 1929) from January 1, 1931, to a rate which will bring the fares per mile more into line with those charged on the Chinese Section.

Local and Joint Sectional earnings are, however, only about 45 per cent. of our total earnings, so there will still be a heavy decrease in net earnings, until we are in a position to raise the Through Fares also. This is not considered advisable until the track on the Chinese Section is put in a condition suitable for the safe and proper working of the new express engines, when the duration of the through journey is anticipated to be reduced to little over three hours.

Technical Institute.
The increase referred to is entirely due to the adoption of the recommendations of the Salaries Report in the form in which they were accepted by this Council.

Vote for Furniture.
The reply to the question on the Furniture Vote requires some detail. It is contained in the following figures:—

Furniture:	1930.	
(a) Head 20. S/H. 7.....	\$10,500	
(b) Head 31. S/H. 30 (H.K.) 25,000		
62 (Kow.) 5,000		
97 (N.K.) 1,000		
112 (N.T.) 3,000		
(c) Supplementary Supply:		
F/M. 8. Item 78.....	\$4,500	
9.....	1,100	
13.....	2,000	7,600
	\$55,100	

In 1931 there is one vote only. Vote under Head 20. S/H. 7 for all services \$48,000.

It will thus be seen that the total Estimate for 1931 is considerably less than the 1930 expenditure; and the increase of \$51,000 to which attention has been drawn is an increase only over one part of the original vote for 1930.

It is now considered more satisfactory to group all Furniture items under the one head and in future one account with departmental subdivisions only will be necessary as against five main accounts with relative departmental allocations. A number of the smaller points raised by my hon. friend Mr. Braga must be met by the reply that, however ready the Government may be to admit the desirability of his suggestions, economy must be our first consideration for the time. They will, however, be borne in mind.

"He would seem to be labouring under a misapprehension in his belief that the City Magistrate of the Colony who occupy palatial residences free of rent escape assessment. The properties concerned are liable to assessment with the rest of the Colony and the Government cannot be further concerned with the precise incidence of the tax as between the firms concerned and their staffs. This hon. member couples the "Highest placed members of the Civil Service" with the City Magistrates in this connection; but Government property is by law not amenable to the assessment procedure.

The arrangement of salary conditions as between Government and its servants is a matter apart, and the latest ruling on that question has been adopted. That report sets out very fully the housing conditions of the service, though it

may be of interest to state that rent is now to be paid at the current rate instead of at the privileged rate of \$10-21. The Government servant can be made to bear his proportion of the burden in other ways than through the assessment and there is no intention of letting him off too lightly.

Transport of Servants.
I think the hon. member must have misread the entry under Transport of Government Servants. The increase entered is from \$250,000 to \$300,000 only; not \$350,000 as he has it. The difference in the exchange rate alone would bring the figure to some \$345,000, but Government hopes to secure certain economies which will keep the expenditure within the estimated figure. It must be admitted, however, that in a matter as uncertain as passages, the effort may fail; but it will be honestly made.

Shau Kei Station.
The hon. member voices a protest against the expenditure of \$43,100 on Shau Kei Station for the benefit of a few golfers only. Here again I fear he has been misinformed. During the last three months there has been an average per month of over 6,000 passengers (excluding golfers) utilising the station, which besides effecting a junction with bus services on the important cross road between Un Long and Sha Tau Kok, has had an important effect in the revival of the market at Shek U Hui. The revenue from this source has averaged over the period about \$2,300 a month. The golfers bring in at least an extra \$10,000 per annum; and in addition again there are freight and goods charges. The station has, in fact, become an important one to the system; and there was no real choice between the alternatives of abandoning or rebuilding.

Colonial Development Fund.
I would only mention further that the Government has not lost sight of the opportunities that may be offered by the Colonial Development Fund. But assistance from it is not to be had for the asking; it is hedged round with necessary conditions which are being carefully explored in the interests of some of the larger developments—such as the Government Civil Hospital and the Gaol which the Colony has in view.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

H.E. the Governor said:—

Honourable Members:—The subject has been so exhaustively dealt with that there appears little left for me to say. In the first place, I wish to thank the Colonial Secretary for his able exposition of the Budget, and both him and his officers for the great help that they have given me in the final preparation of it. I also thank the senior Unofficial Member, and through him the other Unofficial Members, for their congratulations on the efforts made to deal with what is admittedly a very difficult Budget. In the circumstances the tribute is generous. I also thank the Members for their careful consideration of it, and for their helpful comments and criticism. In view of the difficulties involved and the necessity for increasing taxation, I feel gratified that there has been so little criticism.

It has been my misfortune in two successive years, in Malaya and here, to submit a Budget in which it has been necessary severely to restrict expenditure with a view to reducing the deficit on the year's working. In both places prosperous years have been succeeded by lean ones, with the result that serious need for economy has arisen. In spite of the most careful pruning of the estimates for 1931, it is impossible to avoid extra taxation unless there is to be a dangerous loss in efficiency.

High Standard of Living.
Coming to Hong Kong a little over five months ago, I was struck by the fact that here, as in Malaya, the country possesses considerable amenities, which it has been fortunate enough to acquire on a low basis of taxation. This high standard was attained in both places as a result of prosperous years, and now that we have happened on lean years it is a question whether that standard should be allowed to deteriorate or whether, in order to maintain it, some measure of additional taxation should be imposed. I cannot believe that the Colony would choose the former alternative. Any increase of taxation is unpleasant, but if high standards are to be maintained, and I do not believe that this Colony cannot afford to maintain them, it is necessary to do so. It has been argued that the cost of living is high in Hong Kong, and therefore an increase of taxation is not

justified. I doubt whether any Chancellor of the Exchequer would be prepared to accept such an argument. It is necessary to consider to what such high cost of living is due. Is it due merely to an increase in the cost of necessities and a certain measure of luxuries, or is it due to people having adopted a more luxurious style of living? If, as I believe, the latter is largely responsible for the present high cost of living, I cannot possibly accept the argument as a reason for imposing no further taxation.

Comparison With Malaya.

Comparisons are proverbially odious, especially if they reflect one's own arguments. After 32 years of Malaya, I am convinced that the cost of living is higher there than here, and that taxation, though far from burdensome there, is markedly higher than in this Colony. To take one important form of taxation which looms large in the discussions on this bill, the municipal assessment and rates both in Singapore and Penang total 22 per cent., inclusive of general water rate and education rate. In Singapore there is in addition a 2 per cent improvement rate, but of course this is earmarked for special purposes. The revised figure for Hong Kong of 17 per cent inclusive compares, therefore, very favourably with this class of taxation in Malaya. I confess that I had made up my mind that it should not be raised by more than 3 per cent., and steadily resisted suggestions to adopt a greater rise. After combing the estimates very carefully, however, I was forced to the conclusion that, if any lower rate were imposed, the deficit on next year's working would be higher than is justified, and I reluctantly came to the conclusion that a 4 per cent rise was necessary. Before deciding on this increase I explored other possible sources of revenue, but there appeared to be none which would produce the necessary amount required, or the incidence of which would be equally equitable. The difficulty of finding a more equitable form may be gathered from the unofficial reports of the recent meeting of the general committee of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Three sources were recommended, including a tax on betting. This has some merit and need not be irretrievably turned down, but I think that it is advisable to see the effect of it in England. In any event, twenty per cent. would kill it and a reasonable percentage would not bring a huge amount. Meanwhile the amusement tax will be applied to racing clubs.

I consider that the proposed tax on jewellery would be almost impossible to enforce and any attempt to do so would in my opinion be doomed to failure.

The proposal regarding buses and ferries entails the raising of the cost of essential services, so also raising the cost of living. It must be remembered that we tax seats in buses and if the services were to be tender, this would have to be taken into account. As a Colony where there is no income tax assessment, some fair form of taxation. In this connection it must be remembered that the military contribution is high, and that of the 4 per cent additional rate, we only actually receive 3.2 per cent. directly for revenue purposes.

Shipping Charges.

As regards the military contribution it has been suggested that we should try to get the percentage reduced. Efforts have been made in the past to get a revision but with little success, and I may say at once that in my opinion there is not the slightest chance of inducing the stony-hearted Home Treasury to agree to any material reduction. I may remind you that we only pay 20 per cent. so long as the cost of the garrison cost more than that. It must also be remembered that the cost is almost entirely on a sterling basis and that the sterling value of our contribution is adversely affected by the low dollar. The reply to the question regarding the exemption of the profit on exchange is that the matter is still under consideration. Meanwhile favourable consideration has been given to the proposal that capital expenditure on certain undertakings should be taken into account with a view to exemption.

As regards the increase in shipping charges, I fully appreciate that it is undesirable to make such charges unduly heavy in a port like this, which depends so much on its shipping for its prosperity. At the same time, the argument can be overdone, and there is no reason why fair charges should not be imposed, or why the imposition of such fair charges should have any marked influence on the shipping using this port. The additional amount to be paid, when spread over the large number of ships affected, will mean a very small average increase. I hope, therefore, that the camel's back will be sufficiently strong to bear the extra straw placed upon it. The present charges were imposed when the dollar was 2s. 6d., and the revised rates are no more than a reflection of the fall in the dollar. It may be an exaggeration to say that most of the dollar companies have raised

their rates, but some undoubtedly have, while a large number of the ships using the port belong to companies working on a sterling basis, which certainly cannot reasonably complain of what I am convinced is a perfectly equitable rise.

Buoy Charges.

I have not considered whether it is possible to discriminate in respect of buoy charges between coastal and ocean-going steamers. I doubt it, but will go further into the matter.

As regards the suggestion that the fees be reduced if the position at some future date justifies it, I can only say that I cannot possibly give an undertaking which would fetter my successors, but of course it is always open to reconsider any form of taxation at any time, should it appear to be either too onerous or impolitic.

As regards expenditure, naturally there have been considerable increases to meet the increased dollar cost of sterling salaries, and of purchases made in sterling. I can assure Honourable Members, however, that the greatest economy consistent with efficiency is being exercised.

Apart from a decision not to fill certain posts which are at present vacant, the question of actual retrenchment of posts must await the recommendations of the Retrenchment Commission. The members of that Commission are dealing with the question very thoroughly, and Government is most grateful to them. I trust that their enquiries will lead to further economies.

I may say, with reference to the suggestion of my honourable friend, Mr. Braga, regarding local recruiting, that it is a question that I have had under consideration ever since I came here and I have not only asked the Retrenchment Committee to consider it but I have instructed several departments to see how far it is possible to achieve something on those lines.

Education.

Education costs us a good deal, but if the present policy is to be maintained, the cost is unavoidable. At the same time, I have given a great deal of thought to the question of our policy, and confess to some doubts whether it is entirely justified. I have been struck by the high age of a number of the pupils at our schools. It seems to me that, owing to our present system, they stay there for three to four years more than is justified. Naturally the longer the boys are kept at school, the fees at which are admittedly too low to cover the cost, the greater is the expenditure incurred by Government.

Further assistance to vernacular and to grant-in-aid schools might be considered if economies can be effected in other directions. I think that the whole of our educational policy must be overhauled and I propose to seek the advice of the Educational Board.

With regard to the Medical Department, I am sorry that our financial position does not enable Dr. Wellington to go as far as he had hoped in his work of improvement and extension of this department. Certain new appointments were, however, approved in connection with this year's estimates, and some have actually been made. It is proposed to defer others for the present. The appointment, however, of a venereal disease specialist will be proceeded with, and I trust will be made in the near future. I am particularly anxious that this branch should be improved, as there is no doubt that, in the matter of social hygiene, Hong Kong is distinctly backward.

Public Works.

In the public Works Department certain votes under annually recurrent expenditure have been reduced, but I am satisfied that the reduced votes should be sufficient to maintain the necessary amount of efficiency. As regards Public Works Extraordinary, as the Colonial Secretary pointed out in his speech, apart from the cost of which will be paid for from loans, although the amount allotted for Public Works Extraordinary has been restricted to 2½ millions, I am in hopes that it will be possible to spend the whole of this during the year. The amount usually provided is rarely if ever entirely spent. No doubt some of you may be disappointed that it has not been possible to commence further desirable works, and I share in that disappointment. In particular for instance I was very anxious to see a new ward built at the Kowloon Government Hospital, and had made up my mind to make provision for this; but I am afraid that I must defer my hopes for another year. Meanwhile, the maternity hospital there, which is a large work, will be proceeding. While it is not proposed to start any new road of importance, considerable sums have been entered for general extensions and improvements to roads. Hong Kong is fortunate in having a considerable mileage of excellent roads, though I cannot but feel that some have proved mere additions to the amenities of the place, rather than of a development of development in certain directions have been retarded, owing to general depression.

The Colony appears to me to have greater needs in the way of such institutions as the Government Civil Hospital, the gaol, the female prison and the mental hospital. It is proposed to provide for the new Government Civil Hospital, and the gaol out of loan funds, and an application will be made for assistance for these works from the Colonial Development Fund—I trust that the application will be successful.

As regards an aquarium no doubt it is an attraction which even I should like to see but I am afraid this incidence will have to wait till better days.

Water Supply.

The Colony has passed through many anxious times in respect of its water supply, but I have been greatly impressed by the success with which this essential problem has been tackled. I need hardly say that there is no intention of slowing down on approved schemes, and provision will be made for their extensions of the schemes have been submitted to the Secretary of State, and I expect a special report to arrive here early in the forthcoming year to assist us with his advice. This is considered desirable, in view of the magnitude of our proposals, and it is possible to arrange for this advice at a lower fee than would ordinarily be such being included in the cost of an expert to Singapore, who will be able to combine his work in the two colonies in one visit to the East.

Government Salaries.

The burning question of Government salaries was fully discussed last June and has been touched on to-day. It looms large in the public eye. I am satisfied that the basic proposals were on the whole equitable, but feel that the abnormally high rate of exchange is perhaps unduly favourable. I considered the question of putting a low limit on the rate of conversion of sterling salaries into dollars, but was of opinion that it was unwise to do this at once. On the one hand, local cost of living might have increased in proportion to the fall in the dollar, while the dollar itself might have gone up. Neither of these eventualities has occurred, and it is necessary to review the position. I am prepared, subject to the Secretary of State's approval, to agree to the suggestion regarding the basis of conversion of sterling salaries into dollars. Half will be converted at the current rate, or more properly speaking, the Treasury rate, of exchange, and the other half at 1s. 6d. to the dollar. The estimates next year have been prepared on the basis of a 1s. 6d. dollar, and it is estimated that the adoption of this proposal will effect a reduction of \$388,898 in the expenditure, thus reducing the estimated deficit to a more reasonable figure. It is too late to make the necessary alterations in the estimates without causing undue delay in submitting them to the Secretary of State, but I give you an assurance that this basis will be adopted, subject to the Secretary of State's approval. I trust that this step will go some way to meeting the criticisms regarding the increase of the dollar emoluments of Government officers.

I thank the Unofficial Members for their assurance of the continuance of their wholehearted support. I felt confident of such support, but it is none the less gratifying to receive the assurance given.

I am sorry that my first Budget in this Colony is not a more pleasant one, but with the restricted resources at my disposal, I have endeavoured to provide for adequate maintenance and for the upkeep of efficiency to a reasonably safe level. We have, so to speak, a good deal in hand, and will not suffer much if the rate of progress, which must naturally be commensurate with our resources, is somewhat slowed down. Meanwhile, I look forward with confidence to improved conditions, and am convinced that we need have no fear as regards the future prosperity of this Colony.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The formal resolution, to move the second reading, of:—

A Bill to apply a sum not exceeding twenty-three million three hundred and sixty-five thousand three hundred and thirty-five dollars, to the Public Service for the year 1931.

His Excellency intimated that he would not go into details unless members wanted to propose amendments, if any, to specific clauses. Dr. Kotewall: Although Your Excellency has just told us that there is little likelihood of any reduction in the Military Contribution, I should like to request that the views of the Chinese community on the matter be brought before the Secretary of State.

His Excellency, in reply, stated that all the speeches at the morning's Council would be sent to the Secretary of State. Correspondence between Sir Cecil Clementi and the Secretary of State would also be made available to members. The Council adjourned sine die.

Sports News

CRICKET NOTES.

I.R.C. START SEASON WELL.

(By "L. B. W.")

The surprise of the week in the second division was the overwhelming defeat of the University seconds at the hands of the Indians at Sookunpoo. True, the I.R.C. were expected to win, but nobody thought they would do so by eight wickets, in spite of the fact that when these teams met earlier in the season, the Sookunpoo men won by 10 wickets.

On the day's play, the Indians fully deserved their win. Their bowlers were in the best of form, and though the fielding was not a trifle patchy, some very nice catches were taken, especially by their wicket-keeper, S. Ismail, who by the way, is a younger brother of the Indians' first eleven stumper. Arculli bowled quite well for his three wickets which cost just under three runs each. I have been told that the worst of bowler-epithets as such beings are inclined to go to extremes—either going on too long or not bowling long enough!

D. Mohammed, the I.R.C. left-hander, again rattled up sixty odd runs, for the second week running, though his knock was somewhat lucky. He is most unorthodox but he gets the runs right enough and after all that is the thing that counts. Get the runs quickly in afternoon cricket! Young Kevie Ismail played a really good knock but, if he could only let those off ones alone instead of nibbling at them, he would be an even better bat.

The undergraduates failed as a team. H. Normanby was dismissed early—a smart catch behind the sticks, taken very low down on the leg side affected his dismissal. Then Seely and Silva hit out at a good-length balls and both paid the full penalty—the former was taken at point and the latter at "cover". A. T. Normanby and K. T. Loke then engaged in a long partnership and though this did not result in a lot of runs, put a stop to the rot for a while; when they were separated, wickets began to fall rapidly again.

This was the only league fixture over the week-end, though quite a crop of friendlies was played. In their game with the Hong Kong Cricket Club juniors, Club de Reccio created something of a sensation by winning by 100 runs. This was made possible by a great innings for seventy odd runs by Remedios, who played a very enterprising innings. This player bats left-hand but what helps him most is a wonderful pair of eyes. He hits tremendously hard too and should get quite a lot of runs during the season.

The Reccio are a very much improved side this year and should again make a bold bid for championship honours. The inclusion of A. P. Gutierrez has strengthened them a lot. Their fielding is excellent and their batting fairly reliable.

Civil Service juniors beat Craignongow seconds by five wickets; R.E.'s trounced the Police Recreation Club while the Diocesan Boys' School had a runaway win against the Royal Corps of Signals. In the last match, A. Prata played a beautiful knock for the school, putting together over seventy runs.

Alcedonid and Austroruby, both of the R.E.'s, got 65 and 63, not out, respectively against the Police. With all respect to them, the Police bowling must have been rather loose as I have seen both these players in action many a time but neither gave the impression of being run-getters. The latter knocked up sixty odd runs about two weeks ago so I gather they must have come on considerably.

Owing to the fact that no fixture cards have been sent to this office (except C.S.C.C. and I.R.C.), I do not know how many games are down for decision this week-end. All I know is that the Reccio and Indian Recreation Club are meeting in their league fixture at Sookunpoo. Both teams will be taking the field full of confidence and the Indians will no doubt try to get their own back on the Reccio lads who won when they met in the league last Saturday. It ought to be a very interesting game, and whoever wins will probably do so by a very narrow margin. Both Clubs have done very well so far and no doubt both will field their strongest teams; may the best side win!

FANLING GOLF.

RESULTS OF BOGEY POOL.

The results of the Bogey Pool at Fanling during the week-end were as follows:—W. C. Shields (9) 4 up-winner.

Other scores:—J. E. Macfarlan 10, H. Gane (10) all square; S. J. H. Fox (12) all square. There were 47 entries.

R.H.K. YACHT CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS.

A SUCCESSFUL SEASON REPORTED.

The twenty-sixth annual general meeting of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club was held yesterday with the Commodore (Mr. E. W. Carpenter) in the chair.

Addressing the meeting, the Chairman said that the report and accounts had been in the hands of members for one week and they will see from it that the Club has had a successful season. There had been keen interest in the sailing races and he hoped for a continuance of this during the ensuing season. The Southern members gave a handsome cup to be competed for by International Corinthian crews, which he hoped would prove a popular race this season. Facilities for the use of the gymnasium on certain days had been given to the newly-formed Fencing Club. The lawn bowls team finished in the fourth position, which is the highest place they have gained so far.

There being no comments on the accounts, they were passed unanimously.

Election of Officers.

The following officers and committees were elected for the new season:—

Commodore: Mr. E. W. Carpenter; Vice-Commodore: Mr. R. M. Dyer, C.B.E.; Rear-Commodore: Mr. H. S. Rouse.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. J. Ver-nally; Assistant Hon. Secretary: Mr. M. I. De Ville; Hon. Librarian: Mrs. H. S. Rouse; Hon. Treasurers: Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews.

Sailing Committee:—Rear-Admiral R. A. S. Hill, O.B.E., R.N., Mr. A. L. Shields, Mr. V. Goulborn, Lt.-Col. Stokes, Mr. M. I. De Ville and Mr. C. E. L. Grist.

Rowing Committee:—The Hon. Mr. W. T. Southern, C.M.G., Mr. D. H. Crawford, Mr. R. Schmidt, Mr. C. T. Padgett, Mr. K. S. Robertson and Mr. A. H. Chambers.

Bowls Committee:—Messrs. P. W. Ramsey, J. Bentley and E. B. Reed.

House Committee: Dr. E. P. Minett, Messrs. E. S. Carter, G. T. Padgett and B. E. Maughan.

Committee's Report.

The following are extracts from the report of the General Committee:—

"The General Committee has pleasure in presenting to members the accounts and reports of the various committees for the past year: from a 'perusal of these it will be seen that the Club, after a successful year, is at the present time in a flourishing condition."

Rear-Admiral R. A. S. Hill, C.B.E., kindly presented an electric clock, which proves of great service in the Club House Bar, Mr. A. L. Shields two useful starting guns, Mr. F. C. Hall a Rowing Cup and Messrs. Goulborn and Cooke a Sailing Junk's compass; these, together with the Scandinavian Club and International Rowing Shield, are evidence of the keen interest shown by the Club's well-wishers. The Club are also indebted to an old member for the renewal of worn-out parts to the four-oar racing boats.

During the year the Club House has been thoroughly renovated and the members' thanks are due to Mr. Carter for the time and trouble he has spent on the various works.

At the Closing Cruise the Canton Rowing Club and the Victoria Recreation Club were in the inter-club rowing events. It is pleasing to note that the V.R.C. are reviving their activities as a Rowing Club and it is hoped that inter-club contests will continue. The Garrison held their annual rowing races from the Club House on two afternoons in April. When presenting the prizes at the close of a successful meeting, H. E. Major-General J. V. Sandilands, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., thanked the members for the use of the Club facilities for the events.

The General Committee have allowed the members of the newly-formed Fencing Club the use of the Club Gymnasium on two nights a week and wish them every success.

A satisfactory offer was received for the Club's cruising yacht "Typhoon," and she was sold in March of this year to Mr. I. W. Shaw, a member of the Club. In accordance with the policy that initiated the building of this class of boat by the Club, it is hoped to, put in hand shortly, the construction of a similar type of boat to replace it.

Despite the fact that a small loss, \$274.23, is shown on working, the accounts for the year can be said to be a success. The Club has been able to meet exceptional expenditure in house repairs during the year.

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NEWCHOW & DALNY	On 22nd Oct. Noon
SHANGHAI	On 22nd Oct. 5 p.m.
AMOI & SHANGHAI	On 23rd Oct. 10 a.m.
SHANGHAI & TAIKANG	On 24th Oct. 10 a.m.
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	On 24th Oct. 6 a.m.
AMOI, SWATOW & SINGAPORE	On 25th Oct. 10 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TAIKANG	On 25th Oct. 10 a.m.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	On 26th Oct. 10 a.m.
SWATOW, FOOCHOW, WEIHAIWEI, CHENGPOO & TIENTSIN	On 26th Oct. 10 a.m.
S'HAL, NEWCHOW & DALNY	On 27th Oct. 5 p.m.
HONGKONG, PAKHOI & HAIPHONG	On 28th Oct. 11 a.m.
AMOI, SWATOW & SINGAPORE	On 2nd Nov. 7 a.m.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	On 2nd Nov. 10 a.m.
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TAIPING	14th Nov.	21st Nov.	24th Nov.	10th Dec.
CHANGTE	16th Dec.	23rd Dec.	26th Dec.	11th Jan.
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ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

STATION	OCTOBER 19, 1930.										OCTOBER 20, 1930.									
	Hour	Barometer at Sea Level	Thermometer	Wind	Cloud	Humidity	Direction	Force	Speed	Direction	Hour	Barometer at Sea Level	Thermometer	Wind	Cloud	Humidity	Direction	Force	Speed	Direction
Wladivostok	12	29.93	76.8	60	...	...	NW	2	b	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	NNE	4	b	...
Nomuro	11	30.00	76.8	...	...	...	WSW	2	b	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	WSW	2	b	...
Hakodate	...	30.04	76.8	...	...	...	SSE	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	5	...	...
Tokio	...	30.10	76.8	...	...	...	S	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	WSW	1	...	...
Kochi	...	30.06	76.8	...	...	...	SE	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	W	4	...	...
Nagasaki	...	29.90	76.8	...	...	...	S	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	1	...	...
Kagoshima	...	29.84	76.8	...	...	...	SSE	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NNW	5	...	...
Oshima	...	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	SSE	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	1	...	...
Naha	...	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	W	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	N	0	...	...
Ishigakijima	...	29.94	76.8	...	...	...	NE	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	7	b	...
Bonin Island	...	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	NNE	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	7	b	...
Chetoo	15	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	W	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	4	b	...
Shanghai	14	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	NW	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	7	...	...
Gutaiaf	...	29.88	76.8	...	...	...	S	2	bc	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	2	...	...
Wenchow	...	29.89	76.8	...	...	...	S	2	bc	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	WSW	4	...	...
Foochow	...	29.85	76.8	...	...	...	SE	4	b	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	1	...	...
Amoy	...	29.83	76.8	...	...	...	SW	1	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	1	...	...
Swatow	...	29.93	76.8	...	...	...	NNW	2	c	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	0	...	...
Taihekou	11	29.93	76.8	...	...	...	NW	0	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NNE	4	...	...
Taiwan	...	29.93	76.8	...	...	...	NNW	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NNE	4	...	...
Koshu	...	29.91	76.8	...	...	...	NW	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	W	4	...	...
Pescadore	...	29.94	76.8	...	...	...	NNW	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NNE	2	...	...
Hong Kong	14	29.90	76.8	...	...	...	W	1	b	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	NW	2	...	...
Gap Rock	...	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	E	3	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NNW	2	...	...
Macao	...	29.89	76.8	...	...	...	ESE	2	c	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	S	1	...	...
Hoihow	...	29.94	76.8	...	...	...	NE	2	c	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NE	2	...	...
Prata Island	...	29.90	76.8	...	...	...	NE	2	c	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ESE	2	bc	...
Phulien	15	29.88	76.8	...	...	...	N	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ENE	2	bc	...
Tourane	...	29.88	76.8	...	...	...	N	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ENE	2	bc	...
Cape St. James	...	29.84	76.8	...	...	...	ENE	6	bc	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	NE	2	bc	...
Bacao	14	29.83	76.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aparri	...	29.82	76.8	...	...	...	NE	4	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuguegarao	...	29.78	76.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vigan	...	29.80	76.8	...	...	...	WNW	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manila	...	29.80	76.8	...	...	...	WNW	2	b	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Legaspi	...	29.70	76.8	...	...	...	ENE	4	o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calbayog	...	29.79	76.8	...	...	...	W	2	bc	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tacloban	...	29.92	76.8	...	...	...	NE	2	o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iloilo	...	29.79	76.8	...	...	...	NE	2	bc	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cebu	...	29.77	76.8	...	...	...	NE	2	bc	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Surigao	...	29.77	76.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saipan	11.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guam	12.22	29.98	76.8	...	...	...	SE	2	bc	4.92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yap	11.00	29.98	76.8	...	...	...	NNE	4	bc	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pelaw	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Labuan	14	29.91	76.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

October 20d. 10h. 25m.—The depression is central over the Sea of Japan. An anticyclone has formed over S.E. Mongolia.

Hong Kong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since January 1, 94.75 inches, against an average of 79.59 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON ON OCTOBER 21.

- 1.—Formosa Channel
- 2.—South coast of China between Hong Kong and Lamooka
- 3.—Hong Kong to Gap Rock
- 4.—South coast of China between Hong Kong and Hainan

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

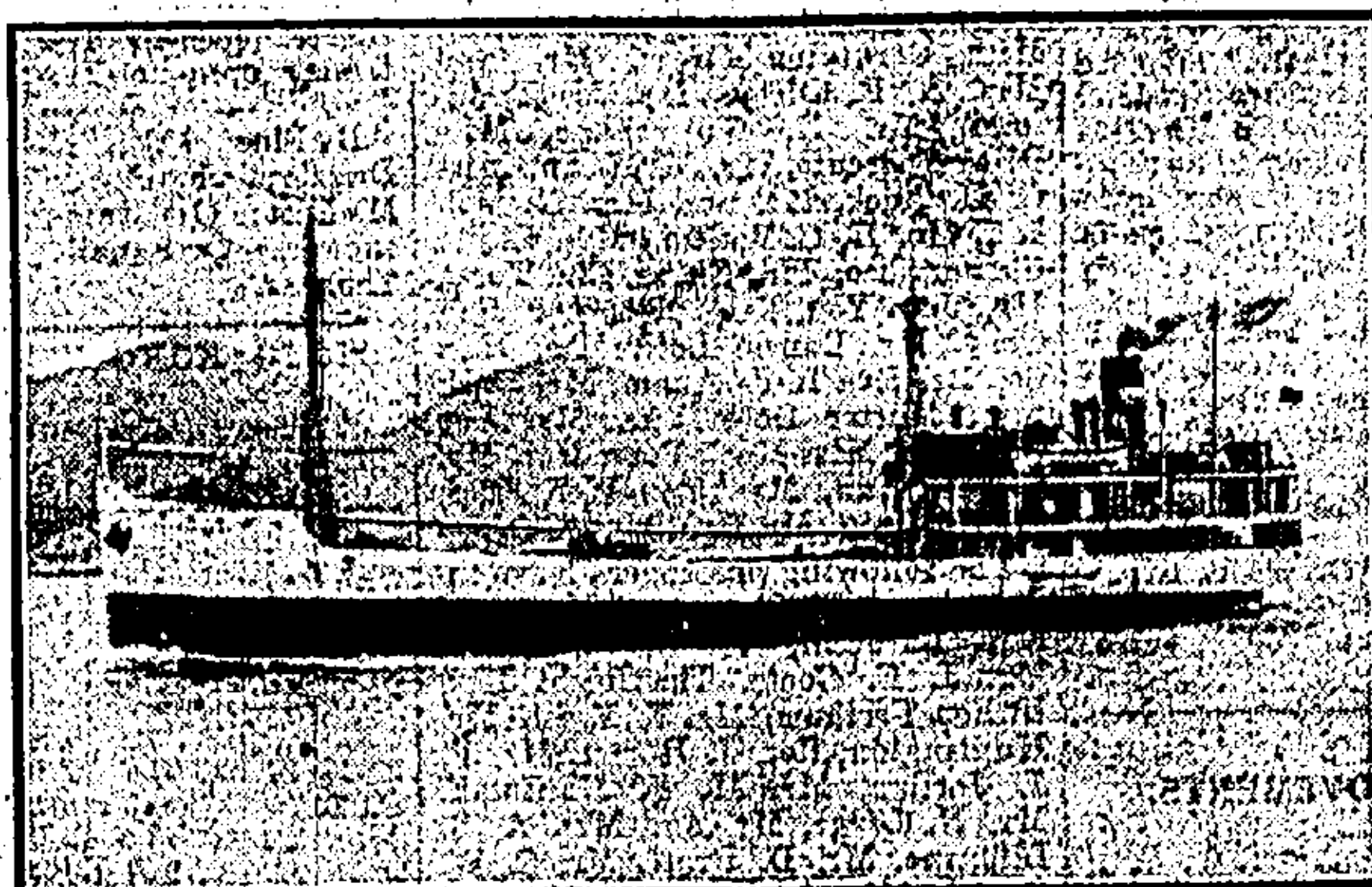
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SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATIONS

To	STEAMSHIP	DATE
TSINGTAU via SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"HANGSANG" "YATSHING" "WAISHING" "CHAKSANG"	Wed., 22nd Oct., at 7 a.m. Sun., 26th Oct., at 7 a.m. Wed., 29th Oct., at 7 a.m. Sun., 31st Nov., at 7 a.m.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALOUTTA	"NAMSANG" "KUTSANG" "HOSANG"	Tues., 28th Oct., at 3 p.m. Fri., 7th Nov., at 3 p.m. Sat., 15th Nov., at 3 p.m.
OSAKA via AMOI, S'HAL & KOBE	"YUENSANG"	Wed., 5th Nov., at 7 a.m.
OSAKA via AMOI & KOBE	"HOSANG" "KUMSANG"	Sun., 28th Oct., at 7 a.m. Wed., 19th Nov., at 7 a.m.
SANDAKAN	"HINSANG" "MAOSANG"	Thurs., 23rd Oct., at Noon Sat., 1st Nov., at 3 p.m.
TIENTSIN via SWATOW & FOOCHOW	"CHIPSHING"	Fri., 31st Oct., at 7 a.m.

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